FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 JULY 1983

Lebanon

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil stopped over in Cannes for talks with Jordanian King Husayn during his flight to Washington prior to talks with President Reagan, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and other Lebanese officials left Beirut to join Al-Jumayyil's delegation, the radio noted. Earlier, in a speech to the UN Security Council broadcast by the radio, Foreign Minister Elie Salim called fr a 3-month renewal of the UNIFIL mandate and said Lebanon should be treated like any other UN member-state and not as a stage for big power ideological conflict, weapons testing, or "pulse" taking. He deplored the way that both Lebanon's "friends and enemies" have claimed the right to interfere in Lebanon's Internal affairs.

Druze-Christian Clashes — Factional clashes involving heavy weapons continued in the Ash-Shuf mountain area, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. In a communique broadcast by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, the Phalangist Lebanese Forces denounced the "savage shelling" of Christian areas by fighters of the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and called on the Druze community to oppose PSP leader Walid Junblatt's "negative" policy and back the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the 'Alayh-Ash-Shuf region.

PLO Affairs

'Arafat, Khalaf Remarks — "I do not want any Syrian-Palestinian war or any Libyan-Palestinian war and I am not ready to enter into tribal conflicts," PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat announced in a speech to PLO fighters in the YAR broadcast by San'a' Voice of Palestine radio. He warned that the "plot" is not over and that "they" want to form a new PLO. Meanwhile, in an interview with Warsaw television, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf reaffirmed his sympathy for the Fatah dissidents' demands but stressed his opposition to their methods and "total" support for 'Arafat, who has been subject to a "groundless and slanderous" campaign.

Mediation Efforts — Saudi and Algerian delegations will arrive in Damascus soon to continue mediation efforts to resolve the PLO's internal dispute and its differences with Syria, according to a Palestinian source cited by QNA. The source also noted the efforts in this regard made by a Soviet delegation led by First Deputy Foreign Minister Georgiy Korniyenko which recently arrived in Damascus. Monitored Syrian media have not mentioned the delegation's arrival.

Syria

When President Hafiz al-Asad announced that if the Israelis withdraw from Lebanon "there will be no problems between Syria and Lebanon," he was giving the Lebanese a "highly effective Syrian card" to strengthen their struggle against Israeli occupation, Damascus radio stated in a commentary on Syrian-Lebanese relations. If certain Lebanese officials have not played this card, it is not Syria's fault, and those who signed the "agreement of submission" should realize that Syria will not help in any way "to reward aggressors and invaders," the radio added.

Meanwhile, President al-Asad reaffirmed Syria's demand for the end of the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and for the achievement of Lebanese national accord during a meeting with a visiting French parliamentary delegation, Damascus television reported.

Iran

Relations With Syria — Iran supports Syria in its "rightful" policies vis-a-vis Israel and Palestine, President 'Ali Khamene'i told visiting Syrian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Faruq ash-Shar' in remarks reported by IRNA. Ash-Shar' gave Khamene'i a message from President al-Asad and briefed the Iranian president on recent developments in the region, IRNA added. Khamene'i praised Syria's "backing and protection" for the PLO, without which the PLO "could not have flourished and continued to exist," Ash-Shar' subsequently disclosed in a statement reported by Damascus radio.

Denials on Arms — The Foreign Ministry "firmly denied" rumors spread by "imperialist and Zionist" media that Iran has purchased arms from Israel, IRNA reported. In another development, South Korea also denied reports that an ROK firm is selling weapons to Iran, according to ROK YONHAP press agency.

Delegation to Saudi Arabia — A delegation led by an Islamic Guidance Ministry official left for Saudi Arabia to discuss the "difficulties" created for Iranian pilgrims, Tehran radio reported.

Antiprofiteering, Hoarding Regulations — A new directive issued by the special guilds prosecutor warned all producers, wholesalers, and retailers against hoarding and profiteering and listed the offenses that will incur punishment, Tehran radio announced. The clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio blamed the government for the economic problems, stating that the "inequitable" distribution of goods by the government leads to hoarding and profiteering. Another Free Voice of Iran broadcast stated that the government's campaign against blackmarketeers is only a "pretext" to "settle accounts" with the hojjatiyeh faction and the bazaar merchants associated with them.

OPEC Office — Iran will "decisively defend its unquestionable right" to assume the OPEC secretary generalship, although certain OPEC members have launched a propaganda campaign against Iran'sholding the post, Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi stated in an interview reported by IRNA.

OPEC

The OPEC ministers meeting in Helsinki decided to maintain existing price, production, and national output quotas, AFP stated. The appointment of the new secretary general, which is disputed by Iran and Iraq, will be examined 19 July. In another development, the meeting elected UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah as OPEC chairman, WAM announced. A Libyan was elected deputy chairman, JANA stated.

Jordan

Sawt ash-Sha'b described recent Israeli reports that Jordan has issued an invitation to initiate peace negotiations with Israel as a "lie" aimed at "distorting" Jordan's position, Amman radio stated. This Israeli campaign coincides with another campaign purporting to show Jordan as a U.S. "agent and satellite," the paper added. Jordan rejects separate negotiations and will remain committed to its pan-Arab policy, the paper concluded.

Libya-Chad

Allegations by a POW held by Hissein Habre's "rebel clique" about Libyan intervention in Chad are "groundless," JANA announced.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 139 *19 July 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Envoy Says Al-Qadhdhafi Ordered Assassination *[AFP]* ..... A 1
'Arafat on Conflict with Syria, PLO Rebels *[Hamburg DER SPIEGEL 18 Jul]* ..... A 1
'Arafat Addresses Palestinian Fighters in San'a' *[San'a' VOP]* ..... A 6
YAR's President Salih Receives 'Arafat *[San'a']* ..... A 6
'Arafat Sends Cable to Iraq's Husayn *[San'a' VOP]* ..... A 6
PNC To Meet in August at Undetermined Site *[Kuwait AL-WATAN 17 Jul]* ..... A 7
JANA: Group Defects to 'Revolutionary Movement' ..... A 7
PFLP-GC Group Reportedly Breaks From Jibril *[Beirut Voice of Lebanon]* ..... A 7
Fedayeen Attack on IDF Reported in West Bank *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 7
PLO Spokesman Issues Statement on POW Exchange *[Amman AD-DUSTUR 19 Jul]* ..... A 7
Al-Jumayyil, Jordan's Husayn Meet in France *[Paris]* ..... A 7

OPEC AFFAIRS

AFP: OPEC To Maintain Existing Price Levels ..... B 1
JANA: Libya Elected Deputy, UAE Chairman ..... B 1
UAE Minister on Production, Prices, Stockpiling *[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 15 Jul]* ..... B 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Commentary on Amir's Visit to United States ..... C 1
Official Reports on Status of Gulf Oil Spill *[GULF DAILY NEWS 16 Jul]* ..... C 1

QATAR

New Terminal, Pipeline To Be Paid With Crude Oil *[KHALEEJ TIMES 16 Jul]* ..... C 1
AR-RAYAN Assesses U.S. Role in Middle East ..... C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Report on Sultan-Weinberger Memo Denied ..... C 1
Guinean President Departs Jidda 18 July ..... C 2

UAE

Manufacture of Petroleum By-Products Increases *[KHALEEJ TIMES 16 Jul]* ..... C 2

IRAQ

Ramadan Interviewed on War, Other Issues *[BAGHDAD OBSERVER]* ..... E 1
Ramadan Receives Italian, Senegalese Ambassadors ..... E 1
Envoy to Bahrain on War, Relations With U.S. *[AL-ADWA']* ..... E 1
YAR Chief of Staff Meets Counterpart in Baghdad *[San'a']* ..... E 2
Youth Minister Ends USSR Visit, Makes Statement ..... E 2
Finance Minister Discusses Gold Reserve ..... E 2
AL-JUMHURIYAH Urges Initiatives To End Gulf War ..... E 3
Military Communiques Report Recent Action ..... E 3
Communique No 1,153 ..... E 3

Communique No 1,154 ..... E 3
Communique No 1,155 ..... E 3
Communique No 1,156 ..... E 4
Briefs: Outgoing Jordanian Ambassador ..... E 4

JORDAN

Amman Radio Criticizes Syria's Arab Policy ..... F 1
Village Leagues Said on Their Way to Liquidation *[SAWT ASH-SHA'B 18 Jul]* ..... F 1

LEBANON

President al-Jumayyil Begins Visit to Europe, U.S. ..... G 1
Departs 18 July ..... G 1
Meets Husayn in France ..... G 1
Delegation To Join Al-Jumayyil ..... G 1
Al-Wazzan Comments on Visit ..... G 1
Kuwaiti Paper on Al-Jumayyil's Upcoming Moves *[AL-QABAS]* ..... G 2
Salim Addresses UN Security Council 18 July ..... G 2
Shaykhani, French Envoy Meet, Make Statements ..... G 3
Prime Minister Interviewed on Hungarian Television *[Budapest]* ..... G 4
Defense Minister Discusses Rebuilding Army ..... G 5
Walid Junblatt Interview With AL-MAJALLAH *[16-22 Jul]* ..... G 5
Sham'un Views Security Matters, Agreement ..... G 8
Camille Sham'un Interview With AL-HAWADITH *[15 Jul]* ..... G 8
IDF Helicopters Reported in Al-Baruk Highlands ..... G 9
VOL on Ash-Shuf Clashes, Explosions 18 July ..... G 9
Security Developments in North ..... G 10
Northerners Preparing To Fight Palestinians *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 10
IDF Moves Forces to Mountain; 2 Israelis Wounded ..... G 10
RFL: Lebanese Forces Communique Scores Junblatt ..... G 10
Two Killed in Beirut; Bomb Explodes in Sidon ..... G 11
Syrian, Al-Khatib Forces Clash in Al-Biqa' 19 July ..... G 11

SYRIA

Commentary on Mediation Between Lebanon, Syria ..... H 1
Al-Ba'th Assails Al-Jumayyil's U.S. Visit, Plans ..... H 1
French Parliamentary Delegation Pays Visit ..... H 2
Received by Khaddam ..... H 2
Al-Asad, Az-Zu'bi Meetings ..... H 2
Al-Asad Remarks ..... H 2
Delegation Departs ..... H 3
Ash-Shar' Meets Khamene'i, Makes Statement ..... H 3
Shultz' Mideast Mission Called a 'Failure' ..... H 3
Palestinians Said Banned From Entering Damascus *[Cairo AL-AKHBAR 15 Jul]* ..... H 4
Two Syrians Hanged 18 July for Stealing *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... H 4

ISRAEL

Air Force Commander Discusses Fighting Readiness ..... I 1
Notes Soviet-Syrian Missiles ..... I 1
Syrian Missiles in Lebanon ..... I 1
Lebanon Said Cooperating With IDF Withdrawal ..... I 1
IDF Casualties in Lebanese War Reported *[DAVAR 19 Jul]* ..... I 1
Begin Set To Visit U.S. 25-29 July ..... I 1
Egypt's Conditions for Envoy's Return Criticized ..... I 2
Ministry Says Arms Sales Don't Violate Accords ..... I 2
Shamir Reportedly Met With Ivory Coast President ..... I 2
Ben-Eli'ezer Discusses West Bank Problems ..... I 2
Defense Ministry Denies Report on M-1 Tank ..... I 3

Poll Finds 'Sharp Decrease' in Begin Support *[HA'ARETZ 17 Jul]* ..... I 3

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Onu Officially Assumes OAU Interim Post *[PANA]* ..... P 1

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B Discusses Shultz Tour, U.S. Aims *[6 Jul]* ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Further on Al-Qadhdhafi LE POINT Interview ..... Q 1
JANA: Chad's Habre Snubs OAU Cease-Fire Appeal ..... Q 2
JANA Cites Sudanese Front Statement on South ..... Q 3

MAURITANIA

President on West Sahara, Other Maghreb Issues *[LE MONDE 13 Jul]* ..... Q 3
Minister Receives Libyan Official, PLO Envoy ..... Q 4

MOROCCO

Pakistani Envoy Delivers Message to King Hassan ..... Q 4
CAR Students Hold Sit-in at Rabat Embassy ..... Q 4

SUDAN

Numayri Reviews Foreign, Domestic Issues ..... Q 4

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Meets With Visiting SFRY Delegation ..... R 1
EPLF Attack on Carora Army Center Reported *[KUNA]* ..... R 1

KENYA

Government Acts Against Illegal Aliens *[DAILY NATION 18 Jul]* ..... R 1

SOMALIA

DFSS Gives More Details on Mataban Attack *[Radio Halgan]* ..... R 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Further Reportage on Fighting Near Fada ..... S 1
Scale of Fighting Unknown ..... S 1
Additional Coverage of Foreign Involvement ..... S 1
Mercenaries, French DGSE Involved ..... S 1
GUNT Alleges Foreign Participation *[Radio Bardai]* ..... S 2
Additional GUNT Allegations *[Radio Bardai]* ..... S 2
Mobutu Scheduled To Visit in 'Next Few Days' ..... S 3
Coverage of Hissein Habre's Activities ..... S 3
Returns to Ndjamena ..... S 3
Interviewed by AL-HAWADITH *[15 Jul]* ..... S 3

Goukouni Praises National Liberation Army *[Radio Bardai]* ..... S 5

WEST AFRICA

GUINEA-BISSAU

AFP: Cape Verde Exploratory Delegation Visits ..... T 1
AFP: East Timor Fretilin Official Arrives ..... T 1

IVORY COAST

Houphouet Invited To Visit U.K. 26-30 July ..... T 1

NIGER

Government To Receive 100 Million FR Loan ..... T 1

NIGERIA

Government Oil Production Incentives To Continue ..... T 1

SENEGAL

Cooperation Agreements With Japan Reported ..... T 1

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Czechoslovak, Cuban Officials Meet Dos Santos ..... U 1
Tanzanian Defense Delegation Begins 5-Day Visit ..... U 1
Defense Minister Comments on Sao Tome Visit ..... U 1
UNITA Rejects Government Amnesty for Refugees ..... U 1

BOTSWANA

Authorities Take Action Against ZAPU Members ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

Romanian President Begins Official Visit ..... U 2
Arrives in Maputo ..... U 2
Talks With Machel ..... U 2
French Officials Visit Detained Air Travelers ..... U 2

NAMIBIA

Windhoek Blast Not Seen as Escalation *[Umtata]* ..... U 3
State Council Officially Established 18 July *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

1,000 Boycotting Students Allegedly Teargassed *[Umtata]* ..... U 3
SACC Head Offers To Mediate Talks With ANC *[Umtata]* ..... U 3
Minister Requests Increase in Maize Imports ..... U 3
Afrikaner Group Rejects NP Man for Council ..... U 3
FAK To Boost Afrikaner Political Unity ..... U 4
Ciskei Announces New Deputy Defense Minister ..... U 4

ZAMBIA

General States Full Army Support for Kaunda ..... U 4

ZIMBABWE

Joint Communique with Romania Issued ..... U 4
Ceausescu Departs for Maputo ..... U 5
Mugabe Addresses ZANU Party Youth League ..... U 5
Blames Nkomo for Violence ..... U 5
State, Defense Close Cases at Sabotage Trial ..... U 5

Envoy Says Al-Qadhdhafi Ordered Assassination
NC181502 Paris AFP in English 1122 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Amman, July 18 (AFP) — Imam Muss as-Sadr, head of the Lebanese Shi'ite Moslem community, was assassinated in 1978 along with two aides by Libyan officers while guests of the Tripoli government, th. former Libyan ambassador to Jordan has charged.

'Aziz Umar ash-Shunayb, the Libyan ambassador who defected last week, said in an interview with AFP that Imam as-Sadr was "dead... executed in cold blood at the request of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi," the Libyan leader. He said Col al-Qadhdhafi had prepared the same fate for Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, but that Mr 'Arafat had refused an invitation to Libya after learning from his intelligence services of the plot to kill him. Several envoys had pressed the PLO leader to visit Libya following the PLO's expulsion from Beirut last August, he said.

(In Beirut, Nabih Birri, head of the Lebanese Shi'ite movement Amal, denied the report, saying "all the information in my possession proves that Imam as-Sadr is still alive." But he said Mr ash-Shunayb's statements "confirmed the responsibility of Libya in the disappearance of the Imam" and accused the Tripoli regime of trying to "exploit national and religious feelings in a vain attempt to clear itself.")

Mr ash-Shunayb in an interview today gave details of the disappearance in August 1978 of Imam as-Sadr and two companions, Shaykh Muhammad Ya'qub and 'Abbas Badr ad-Din, invited to Tripoli to attend ceremonies marking the anniversary of the Libyan revolution on September 1. He said differences had arisen between Imam as-Sadr and Col al-Qadhdhafi, who had provided substantial material and political backing to the Shi'ite Amal organization in Lebanon. The Libyan leader sought to "impose a new political line on Amal and the Imam flatly refused," he told AFP. Col al-Qadhdhafi then ordered his assassination before the delegation was to leave Libya, according to Mr ash-Shunayb.

He said the executions took place at the Al-'Aziziyah military camp in Tripoli by three officers whom he identified as Ahmad Ramadan, Col al-Qadhdhafi's personal secretary for intelligence, and Bukabir and Khalifah Hannish, both aides-de-camp to the Libyan leader. The bodies were transported south of the coastal town of Sidra, near the As-Sulul al-Khadr farming project supervised by a cousin of Col al-Qadhdhafi, where they were buried. He said Libyan intelligence agents then posed as the missing three in an effort to cover up the killings. Donning their clothes and armed with their passports, papers,and tickets, they flew to Rome and checked into a hotel, leaving their suitcases there.

Libya has always claimed that Imam as-Sadr and his two companions left Tripoli for Rome on August 31, 1978, aboard an Alitalia airliner. However, according to an official Italian investigation in June 1979, the three Shi'ite leaders were not among the flight's passengers.

Mr Ash-Shunayb also said that Iranian authorities, who began criticizing Libya following the disappearance of Imam as-Sadr, changed their line after Col al-Qadhdhafi sent large quantities of weapons to Tehran. Iran had said it would refuse all diplomatic relations with Tripoli until the mystery of the disappearance was cleared up.

The former Libyan diplomat, who said he had evidence to support all his allegations, claimed he had been "proud to serve the Libyan people as ambassador." But his mission had been "dishonored" by the methods of Col al-Qadhdhafi.

'Arafat on Conflict with Syria, PLO Rebels
DW181354 Hamburg Der Spiegel in German 18 Jul 83 pp 91-96

[Interview with PLO Leader Yasir 'Arafat by *Spiegel* editor Adel S. Elias in Tunis; date not given]

[Text] *Spiegel*: Yasir 'Arafat, in late August last year you left Beirut defeated militarily yet with your head held high and flashing the victory sign. The Lebanese prime minister bade you farewell quite in keeping with the provisions of protocol, and the Greek prime minister received you like a statesman. This June, however, you were shamefully evicted from Damascus. You weren't even allowed to board your private plane but were put on a regular airline plane ...

'Arafat: It hurts me to hear your comparisons. I wish I had been spared this event, but it seems to be my destiny to experience this sort of thing. I'm sure it was a serious mistake to expel the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and leader of the Palestinian revolution from Damascus that way. But when I left Beirut in 1982, I already had a premonition that we would be facing some more struggles. Arens and Sharon were happy, of course, when they heard that I'd been expelled from Damascus.

Spiegel: Here in Tunis you are much farther away from Palestine than you had been in Beirut. Is this only a matter of distance?

'Arafat: Yes. I had to leave Beirut after the Israeli invasion army had besieged us there for 79 days. No matter to which place I am banished, even if it were but an inch away from the Palestinian border, I feel far away from Palestine. History, not I, will pass judgment on my expulsion from Damascus.

Spiegel: What will you do now?

'Arafat: I am a faithful Muslim. I have a mission to accomplish. Prophet Muhammad too was exiled, from Mecca. Jesus Christ was persecuted from one place to the next, and expelled. In history nearly all leaders at some point of time were persecuted and expelled.

There are exceptions, of course. French Foreign Minister Cheysson told me that Churchill did not expel his guest De Gaulle from the latter's London exile during World War II even though there was a serious conflict between them. At that time, De Gaulle not only represented himself but also the honor and dignity of the French resistance. I wish the Syrian Government would have behaved toward me the way the British Government did toward De Gaulle.

Spiegel: *De Gaulle and Churchill were united by a war goal* — to defeat Nazi Germany. Syria's President al-Asad and you obviously don't have any common objectives anymore.

'Arafat: You have to ask the Syrian Government whether it still has its goal to resist Israeli occupation. Israel rejoices and hails the expulsion decision taken by the Syrians. Anyone reading the U.S. newspapers, and for that matter the Western papers in general, including *Der Spiegel*, will find great glee over our fate.

Spiegel: We didn't rejoice, but we did wonder how this could have happened to such an experienced politician as you. Didn't you expect the expulsion?

'Arafat: No, no.

Spiegel: After all, in other cases your instinct never failed you. Why this time?

'Arafat: Actually I didn't want to discuss this, but I'm going to say it: At this very table at which we are sitting the PLO Executive Committee urged me to go to Damascus. I replied: "Don't urge me; don't force me to go to Damascus," because my historical and political instinct did in fact tell me not to stay in an Arab country but to go to Athens.

Spiegel: Why did you nevertheles go to Damascus?

'Arafat: I was in Tripoli in northern Lebanon. An envoy of the Syrian Government looked me up there and asked me to come to Damascus. He said it was very important, and that I would be meeting top Syrian personages. I did meet several politicians, among them Rifaat al-Asad, the president's brother. We negotiated for more than 3 hours and ultimately agreed to continue our negotiations. We intended to discuss and iron out all the Syrian-Palestinian relations.

During the night I suddenly received word that a PLO convoy had been shot ablaze en route from Damascus to Homs. I was supposed to be in this convoy myself. I was saved that night only because I was late.

Spiegel: Do you know who was shooting?

'Arafat: Now, I do not know exactly. However, I demanded immediate clarification from the Syrian Government. After that unfortunate night, I was surprised by the Syrian Government's order that I had to leave Damascus.

Spiegel: Was a messenger sent to you, perhaps a general?

'Arafat: Not even that. They told my brother Abu Mahir, a member of the Fatah Central Committee, over the phone: "'Arafat is persona non grata."

When I left my office in Damascus, I was surprised to see that Syrian soldiers had encircled the building with more than 70 cars. They told me: "Had you hesiated any longer, we would have acted. It is good that you have come out. Now we will take you to the airport." To take me to the airport they needed 70 cars!

Spiegel: Would the Syrians have stormed your office?

'Arafat: It looked that way. Just imagine; I came to the airport and I did not know what plane I was supposed to board and in what direction they wanted to send me.

Spiegel: The Palestinian poet Mahmud Darwish has said: "Some people do not have a homeland. We Palestinians cannot even find an exile. That is a new problem." This is probably now true also for you?

'Arafat: Yes, my home is my suitcase. I am always traveling.

Spiegel: Maybe the voyage will last very long. Will there be a return?

'Arafat: I am convinced there will be. I just want to point out the protest demonstrations in the occupied areas against my expulsion.

Spiegel: What does that help you if such strong states as Syria and Libya are against you?

'Arafat: Libyan radio was happy that I was expelled. It even announced that Libyan troops in the Al-Biqa' valley had fired at Palestinian fighters. These are exactly the same Libyan troops who have not fired one single shot at the Israeli enemy. Since we are discussing this episode I will tell you the following also: When the Israelis were besieging us in Beirut, Al-Qadhdhafi prohibited the Palestinian pilots from flying his fighter planes. These Palestinian pilots had contributed much to the organization of the Libyan Air Force. However, during the war they were grounded.

Spiegel: Why is Al-Qadhdhafi acting that way? He has written that he will fight Israel until victory is achieved.

'Arafat: I believe that Al-Qadhdhafi feared that our Palestinian pilot brothers wanted to help us. However, you should ask Al-Qadhdhafi these questions. I state here that I am being fought by those Libyan troops stationed in the Al-Biqa' valley. I am asking the Syrians the following: How could that happen?

Spiegel: Do you have evidence that Damascus knew about it?

'Arafat: I will give you here the photostat copy of an order we obtained. It indicates that the Syrian-dominated PLO group As-Sa'iqah was participating in the fighting against my people. I have sent that document to all the heads of state of the Arab countries to prove that the Syrians and Libyans have fired on us in the Al-Biqa' valley.

Spiegel: Is it possible the order did not come from the highest level?

'Arafat: The Syrians use the excuse that actually a lower-ranking Syrian officer was responsible for it. Well, I will accept that because we do not want to quarrel with our Syrian brothers.

Spiegel: However, in the Al-Biqa' valley Palestinians have also shot at Palestinians. Mutiny was taking place. Fatah was split.

'Arafat: There was neither a mutiny nor a split. Arab interference was taking place, cloaked by Palestinians. It was exactly the same in 1976. At that time they used Ahmad Jibril, the chief of the PFLP group headquarters. They used him again this time. It is the same plan; the same method with somewhat different roles.

Spiegel: It does not convince anybody anymore when you say every time that it was the fault of others. Does the fault possibly lie with you? In reality you do not have a strategy that would bring you closer to your goals, so you leave it to the other Arabs to solve your problem. In doing this, you know very well that the other Arabs do not have a comprehensive strategy to solve the Palestinian problem.

'Arafat: Your judgment is severe. I cannot accept it. Keep in mind that our armed forces were the only ones not to capitulate to Israel. Naturally we have a strategy, naturally we have plans...

Spiegel: Unrealistic plans. What concrete alternatives have you developed?

'Arafat: Take the Fes plan, for example. It is the first Arab peace plan, and I tell you very frankly that we worked out the Fes plan. We are proud of it. We were the first to speak of a democratic Palestinian state where Jews, Christians, and Muslims could live with equal rights. We were also the first to say loudly and clearly that we would be prepared to talk to democratic forces in Israel and establish contacts with them.

Spiegel: The forces you mean are but a small minority in Israel, and it was this attempt, too, which triggered the Fatah mutiny against you, because the mutineers claim that action of this sort is not included in the PLO program.

'Arafat: Even if this were the case, these people have no right to make any decisions on the Fatah program. This can be done solely by the Revolutionary Council and the Fatah Central Committee, and not by any renegades who have placed themselves at the service of Arab intelligence services. We don't take orders from any Arab intelligence service but only from our people. Our Palestinian legitimacy is unimpeachable.

Spiegel: These are fine words, but do they correspond to your situation? You were in Lebanon for 12 years, and then you had to leave Beirut. Your fighters are dispersed over several states of the Arab world. For months you hadn't visited the rest of your fighters in the Al-Biqa' valley and in northern Lebanon. What's the effect of this on many Palestinians?

'Arafat: That wasn't my fault. When I left Beirut I had given my word of honor not to enter Lebanon again — and I kept that word.

Spiegel: But you did visit Lebanon again recently, more than 15 times. What about your word of honor?

'Arafat: I was forced to go to Lebanon again because I had to discuss the crisis there. I found out that the Arab intervention took place which we discussed earlier. I insist: What happens there is an Arab intervention under a Palestinian cloak. The Arabs should mark by words when I say this: Our Palestinian people do not forget. The Arabs do us injustice. Our people won't take it.

Spiegel: Why when you left Beirut didn't you go to the capital of an Arab country first rather than to Athens?

'Arafat: We had been deserted in Beirut. We were alone, deserted, lonely.

Spiegel: In retrospect, do you regret having evacuated Beirut last summer? Perhaps the Arab states would have decided to help you after all. Maybe Moscow would have done something.

'Arafat: On one of the difficult days when we were under heavy fire in Beirut, a former Lebanese head of government asked me: "Are you waiting for something? Are you still expecting help, perhaps Arab help?" I answered him: "I rely on God alone. I carry my pistol; I will fight to the last round."

Spiegel: If you were determined to do that, why didn't you fight to the last round?

'Arafat: I left Beirut because of the children of Beirut. It was unbearable to see how they had to suffer under the Israeli fire. If Beirut had been a Palestinian city, I would never have left it.

Spiegel: At that time the PLO still backed you solidly. This has fundamentally changed now. Why has rebel leader Abu Musa gone into opposition against you?

'Arafat: Abu Musa is one of my sons who has lost his orientation. I don't like to talk about him, not now anyway.

Spiegel: The rebellious son charges you with planning to come to terms with King Husayn on a confederation between Palestine and Jordan.

'Arafat: So one wants to prohibit the birds from chirping! Why shouldn't we be allowed to conduct political talks with a country as important as Jordan? Jordan has the longest border with Israel and more than 1.5 million Palestinians are living on its territory. In 1974, when King Husayn recognized the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, we held talks with him without any Arabs getting excited about it.

Spiegel: Husayn proposed in May that a global solution of the Palestine issue be discussed with the Americans. He also wanted to consider Ronald Reagan's Middle East plan for a Jordanian-Palestinian federation. You personally were not disinclined. You yourself had drafted a working paper which manifested the PLO's interest in such talks. Why then did your talks with King Husayn fail after all? Surely, as you see it, some other Arab country again is responsible.

'Arafat: Jordan alone is responsible. King Husayn made our negotiations fail.

Spiegel: Reportedly everything had been settled. Allegedly, all that was needed was your signature.

'Arafat: I repeat: The king of Jordan alone made these

negotiations fail. But I don't want to go on lamenting this as this won't get us anywhere anymore. The door is still open. Our dialogue is not yet disrupted.

Spiegel: At the time you allegedly told King Husayn: "We two are agreed. If other PLO groups reject our agreements, let them. I have Fatah approval. I am going to talk to my Central Committee and will then come back to sign." You went to Kuwait. However, your own Central Committee forbade you to sign the agreement.

'Arafat: That's about how it was. I had said to Husayn:"Your Majesty, you are a king. You are a king. You can decide the way you like. I am not a king like you, but an elected president, and our organization is democratic. Therefore, I must adhere to the democratic rules. I must consult the leadership of the Palestinian liberation front."

Spiegel: What then was the reason for the failure of the agreement with the Jordanian king?

'Arafat: Husayn wanted to incorporate the Reagan plan, whereas my leadership said the Fes plan and nothing else. That's the issue that made it all fail.

Spiegel: What did your Soviet friends say about it? We understandthe Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait conveyed a message from the Kremlin leadership to you asking you to reject the Reagan plan?

'Arafat: No, that was not the case.

Spiegel: How about the Syrians? Didn't Damascus bluntly warn you that there would be another PLO if you signed the agreement with Husayn?

'Arafat: I am not going to answer this question. However, I remind you that you can't have revolutions hatched. For revolutions you need revolutionaries.

Spiegel: You said in Tripoli in May: "We are between the anvil and the hammer. If we accept the Reagan plan, people will say 'Arafat has sold out Palestine. If we reject the Reagan plan, people will say 'Arafat is not interested in Palestine but only in his own establishment." Please explain to us how you will decide.

'Arafat: We say yes to what the Arabs agreed in Fes.

Spiegel: But you still are in contact with Husayn. Are you negotiating or exchanging letters with him?

'Arafat: No, I am not negotiating with him. I have only informed him about our situation.

Spiegel: If Husayn said today: "Let's forget the Reagan plan," would you then negotiate with him again?

'Arafat: You know, you want to pin me down here. However, I don't let myself be pinned down. I need some leeway to allow me to maneuver.

Spiegel: Your comrade-in-arms, George Habash, once said: "The problems within Fatah will not cease to exist until its chairman, meaning you, stops dreaming about the possibility of resolving the Palestinian problem through negotiations."

'Arafat: Habash is my comrade-in-arms. I highly respect and esteemhim. However, considering this region, how can one say something like that? He is like an ostrich burying his head in the sand. U.S. Secretary of State Shultz did not come to Damascus to visit the bazaar there. He did not go to Riyadh to see the beautiful scenery. He did not come to Lebanon to enjoy Beirut's places of entertainment. Doesn't George Habash see that?

Spiegel: Now you are in a very precarious situation. You are in disagreement with Syria with which you should coordinate your policy militarily and politically...

'Arafat: Yes, that's exactly what I have deplored and regretted all along. What's the use of my being in agreement with my most distant brothers — in Mauritania, for instance — if I don't get along with my neighbor, the Syrians? I have not forgotten Syria's geopolitical situation or its importance. To do that would be extremely stupid. However, I want to be accepted by the Syrians as an equal comrade-in-arms and brother. I must cooperate with Syria, Jordan, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia. I also want to cooperate with Egypt.

Spiegel: Former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger thinks that if you cooperate with the Syrians, the PLO likely will become politically even more inflexible and militarily paralyzed.

'Arafat: Kissinger had better be silent. He wanted to be a second Metternich. Without public relations he would be a nobody.

Spiegel: You can say a lot against Kissinger, but in this very region he achieved quite a few things.

'Arafat: Kissinger brought us Arabs a catastrophe. He managed to split and disrupt us.

Spiegel: But the Arabs did that themselves. As for Syria, if the Americans made concessions to Damascus so that the Syrians would withdraw their troops from Lebanon, could the PLO then be the only one to stay in the Al-Biqa' valley?

'Arafat: Are you a Lebenese Government official who wants to negotiate with me on that?

Spiegel: Well, putting it differently: If you withdrew from Lebanon, would that mean that you would discontinue your military fight against Israel, as your rival Abu Musa has said?

'Arafat: Why did I fight against Israel only from Lebanon before 1982?

Spiegel: If you withdrew from the Al-Biqa' valley, you would be a toothless lion. How do you assess your situation there?

'Arafat: Well, my bases are encircled, my supply lines are cut off, and my fighters don't get ammunition, food, or weapons.

They are not even able to keep in contact with each other. Moreover, they are even attacked. Meanwhile some martyrs were killed in action during Arab attacks. Under these circumstances, I made the following proposals to the Arab mediation commission: First, an immediate cease-fire under Arab control; second, I am prepared to achieve agreement with Syria on all issues; third...

Spiegel: ...Meaning, you are prepared to go to your canossa in Damascus to ask forgiveness there?

'Arafat: Why not? I am prepared to go to Damascus and go to my canossa. A part of each Arab capital belongs to me, including also Damascus. I fight for my people and for my cause.

Third, I suggest that my fighters withdraw from the Al-Biqa'valley to Tripoli in northern Lebanon. In this way I will avoid a massacre of my fighters and reduce tensions. They can take the Al-Biqa' valley — mabruk alaihim; they have my blessing.

Spiegel: But in this way you would only fall from the frying pan into the fire. What do you want in Tripoli?

'Arafat: That would at least be a place of refuge until a new solution is in sight.

Spiegel: Do you honestly believe that the Tripoli inhabitants would be ready to give you and your fighters shelter after all that happened in Tyre, Saida, and Beirut last year? The Lebanese in Tripoli want to be left alone, don't they?

'Arafat: I don't want to entrench myself in Tripoli. I only want to withdraw to Tripoli to remove the fuse from the bomb which otherwise would explode. I want to prevent my fighters from being massacred.

Spiegel: But Tripoli is a trap for you. The city is firmly in the hands of the Syrian Army. You could then only withdraw in the direction of the Mediterranean.

'Arafat: That's correct. It is my duty, however, to protect my armed forces and save them from a massacre. What would you do if you were in my shoes?

Spiegel: You decided to be a revolutionay, but good luck seems to have deserted you, and perhaps even your big brother in Moscow. In a conflict between Syria and 'Arafat, he will side with Syria. A Soviet diplomat in an Arab capital said recently: "We build our strategy on solid rock and not on moving sand." By the moving sand he certainly meant the PLO and not Syria.

'Arafat: Right. However, people shouldn't forget that I am pragmatic. On old Arab poet has said that a man lives longest when he can assess his strength. Without us Palestinians, the Middle East equation will not work. It is not the first time that I have had to cope with a crisis like this one.

Spiegel: Do you believe you will politically survive this crisis? You have suffered a serious loss of authority. You experienced many defeats in Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon, and Syria.

'Arafat: I didn't suffer a defeat in Jordan; I lost a position.

Spiegel: And in Lebanon, did you also only lose a position there?

'Arafat: We did not suffer a defeat in Lebanon. We gave the Arabs the best example of the fact that the Israeli enemy can be defeated. We fought against the Israelis for 88 days, longer than any Arab state has ever fought in its history.

Spiegel: If you think of your political survival — your enemies will yet give you a hard time.

'Arafat: Naturally. They force us into a striptease.

Spiegel: Who is supposed to strip?

'Arafat: The Palestinian revolution. Those who have not fought in Beirut want to strip us completely naked.

Spiegel: Do you still think that you will return to Jerusalem some day?

'Arafat: I have never doubted for a minute that I will return to Jerusalem. I will tell you another story: One day, in December 1967, I wanted to pray at the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem. While I was praying — you know that I am a faithful person — a group of Israeli tourists entered the mosque. They laughed loudly, and the women were indecently clad. They wanted to provoke us. I left the mosque without having finished my prayer. I swore to myself that I would continue my prayer some day at the same place — but in the liberated mosque.

Spiegel: By then the Jordanian West Bank could be full of Israeli settlements.

'Arafat: When the homeland is liberated, these settlements will disappear. Take Yamit in Sinai as an example: the Israeli settlers swore that they would never leave Yamit, but they had to leave it anyway. They uprooted all the trees and destroyed all the houses, but they have left.

Spiegel: However, only because Egypt had previously negotiated with Israel. Are you prepared to sit down at the negotiating table with Israel?

'Arafat: After every battle negotiations begin. After the 1981 battle the Israelis concluded an agreement with us. Did the Israelis conclude this agreement, which was arranged by the United Nations, with a phantom? No, they concluded it with me and they will have to conclude further agreements with me.

Spiegel: Yasir 'Arafat, Thank you for this talk.

'Arafat Addresses Palestinian Fighters in San'a'

GF181810 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Jul 83

["Text" of speech delivered by Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, to Palestinian combatants in the Sabra camp in San'a' 18 July]

[Excerpts] As you remember, when the Fatah Revolutionary Council met in Aden, it agreed to hold a special meeting to discuss organizational and internal issues and evaluate the Beirut battle in San'a' [words indistinct]. But alas, the plot was quicker than us,and we were surprised by those who moved inside our forces, imagining or attempting that at a certain moment, once they (?received orders) from Arab intelligence here and there, [words indistinct]. They did not know that the Palestinian revolution forces are not the property of Abu 'Ammar, Abu Saqr, or Abu Humayid but the property of the Palestinian people and the Arab nation. [applause]

Some sickminded people in our Arab region from some Arab intelligence services imagine that once they move one Syrian or Libyan tank — and I regret to say that this tank was a friend — they would be able to (?overcome) the revolution. They are deluded, [word indistinct], and stupid because this revolution is — as 'Abd an-Nasir said — [words indistinct] was born to be victorious. Then our Revolutionary Council met and left things open for anyone who had doubts or sickness in his heart. [words indistinct] The result was that while we were in the meeting which was held in Damascus at the request of the Syrian brothers, [words indistinct]. Alas, there was a plot to arrest all the Revolutionary Council members during a major attack in which a Syrian armored brigade was to take part. [passage indistinct]

I repeat that I do not want any Syrian-Palestinian war or any Libyan-Palestinian war, and I am not ready to enter into tribal conflicts. I do not want to enter into tribal wars which they want to impose on me in the Arab region. Alas, the result of the [words indistinct] after our meeting of the revolutionary council was that our bases were besieged. (?I say) that there is another Tal az-Za'tar [plot] being prepared against our forces in Al-Biqa' and Tripoli. [passage indistinct]

Shultz and his agents in the region must know that we are the hard figure in the Middle East equation. I tell them this [words indistinct] that there are Syrian and Libyan attempts to subdue this hard figure. No. No one can do this. If one (?youth) of this revolution remains alive, he will hoist the flag and keep this independent decisionmaking and will not allow anyone to subdue him or [words indistinct].

The plot is not over. They want to form a new PLO. Brothers, beware. After they failed to create dissension in Fatah, they want to create dissension within the PLO. Let us all be vigilant and keep our eyes open to protect our revolution and march, and not allow anyone to control Palestinian decisionmaking. I tell them that this revolution was born to survive and to be victorious. Let us all march together until victory, victory, victory, victory!

YAR's President Salih Receives 'Arafat

GF181304 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received at the Republican Palace this afternoon Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces. During the meeting 'Arafat briefed the brother leader president on the overall situation in the Arab and Palestinian arenas.

The brother leader president expressed pride and appreciation over the uprising of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied territories, and affirmed his country's adherence to the legitimate leadership of the Palestinian people represented by the PLO. Strong relations between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions were also discussed during the meeting. The brother leader president reiterated the continuation of our country's support for the Palestinian revolution and expressed confidence that the Palestinian revolution will triumph and will overcome all the differences it is facing.

'Arafat Sends Cable to Iraq's Husayn

GF181830 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text of cable from Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on the anniversary of the 17 July revolution]

[Text] Brother Saddam Husayn, chairman of the Revolution Command Council and president of Iraq:

Greetings to the revolution. In my name and on behalf of the Palestinian people and the PLO Executive Committee, I am pleased to warmly congratulate you and the fraternal Iraqi people on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the 17 July revolution. On this occasion I hail Iraq's stable stance on the PLO and the Palestinian revolution and people during these fateful days that we are passing through, and appreciate your national stances to achieve a united Arab solidarity to enable our Arab nation to stand together in order to resist all imperialist and Zionist conspiracies and the challenges confronting them.

Finally, I wish you health and progress, and flourishment to the Arab Iraqi people under your wise leadership along with best greetings.

[Signed] Your Brother Yasir 'Arafat, Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces

PNC To Meet in August at Undetermined Site

CF181630 Kuwait Al-Watan in Arabic 17 Jul 83 p 1

['Amid ash-Shanti report from Baghdad]

[Text] A Palestinian source close to Abu 'Ammar told *Al-Watan* yesterday that the PNC meeting will be held next month, and that the most important topic on its agenda will be the formation of a government-in-exile. Capitals tipped for this meeting are Morocco, Tunisia, or the PDRY.

A senior source has told *Al-Watan* in Baghdad that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn affirmed Iraq's support for Palestinian legitimacy and that Iraq is ready to set up camps to train commandoes. The source said Abu 'Ammar briefed Saddam Husayn on developments in Palestinian-Syrian relations and Syria's stand on forming a new leadership for the PLO.

JANA: Group Defects to 'Revolutionary Movement'

LD191009 Tripoli JANA in English 0832 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] Damascus, Shawwal 9, July 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Another group of Palestinian fighters belonging to Yasir 'Arafat yesterday joined the new revolutionary movement in the Fatah organisation.

An official statement issued yesterday and distributed in the Al-Biqa' valley said the commander, officers, and fighters of the Salladin camp in the Al-Biqa' valley declared their defection to the movement, support for the revolutionary uprising in Fatah, and rejection of all capitulationist plans. The statement was signed by the fighters at the camp and three officers: Captain Awad Hafiz Khalaf, First Lieutenant Muhammad Bashir Durzi, and Lieutenant Ata Nayif Asad.

PFLP-GC Group Reportedly Breaks From Jibril

NC190648 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] Regarding the Palestinian conflicts, sources close to Yasir 'Arafat in Tripoli have been quoted as saying that a group of fighters from the [PFLP] General Command, which is led by Ahmad Jibril, has fled from Al-Biqa' toward the north. They refused to take orders from Jibril. The group described him as an (?insignificant) dissident who hires his fighters for Libyan intelligence.

Fedayeen Attack on IDF Reported in West Bank

JN181748 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] In the occupied homeland, a group of our revolutionaries operating inside the occupied land has attacked a military position of the Zionist occupation forces in the occupied West Bank.

The attack was carried out after meticulous observation of the position, and after our revolutionaries had ensured that a senior Zionist officer was inside. The Zionist officer was critically wounded and several other enemy soldiers were also wounded in the machinegun attack. A Zionist spokesman admitted the attack and said that the officer was transferred to a hospital. The occupation forces carried out an intensive search for the revolutionaries who returned safely to base.

PLO Spokesman Issues Statement on POW Exchange

JN181056 Amman Ad-Dustur in Arabic 18 Jul 83, p 20

[Text] Damascus — REUTER — 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO official spokesman, said yesterday that the PLO had previously expressed readiness to consider the release of eight Israeli POW's if the Israeli authorities accept the PLO's conditions and demands.

Addressing a group of newsmen, Abu Mayzar said that the recent efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] seem encouraging regarding the exchange of prisoners between the PLO and Israel. He added: Negotiations between us and the ICRC mission in Damascus are continuing, and we still receive reassurances about the conditions of Palestinian prisoners and detainees in the jails of the Zionist enemy. Abu Mayzar said that the PLO submitted all its conditions and demands in a written message addressed to the ICRC on 10 May 1983. The message stipulates the release of all those detained during the Lebanese war, including the prisoners at Ansar camp in southern Lebanon; the release of 1,250 detainees in jails inside Israel; and the restoration of the documents which the Israeli forces confiscated from the Palestinian Research Center in Beirut.

The PLO also asked the ICRC to recognize the right of those released detainees who want to remain in the occupied territories without being harassed by the Israeli authorities. Abu Mayzar concluded: We hope that our prisoners will be released and that this humanitarian issue will end as soon as possible. We have more than once expressed our stand and readiness to cooperate with and through the ICRC's mission in Damascus. All obstacles in the prisoner exchange process have always been created by the Israeli side which procrastinates in accepting the PLO's demands and conditions.

Al-Jumayyil, Jordan's Husayn Meet in France

LD191053 Paris Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] Speaking in Nice, Lebanese President Amin Al-Jumayyil said he is convinced that all Palestinian, Syrian, and Israeli forces will soon leave his country.

The president made a stopover in Nice and had a talk in Cannes with King Husayn of Jordan, now on a Riviera vacation. They discussed the topics that Amin Al-Jumayyil will be discussing later today with President Reagan in Washington.

AFP: OPEC To Maintain Existing Price Levels

NC181824 Paris AFP in English 1817 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Helsinki, July 18 (AFP) — OPEC oil ministers today decided to maintain existing price, production and national output quota levels, but left the controversial appointment of a new secretary general until tomorrow.

The Saudi Arabian, Algerian and Venezuelan ministers said the meeting agreed to continue for the time being the four-month-old London Agreement setting the reference price for opec oil at 29 dollars a barrel, and the overall production ceiling at 17.5 million barrels a day.

This means that Iran has been unsuccessful in its call for an increase in its output quota, but its claim to nominate the next secretary general of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting countries remains to be settled.

The only other outstanding matter to be discussed on the second and last day of the conference tomorrow is OPEC's long-term strategy to ensure price and production stability in what is expected to be a gradually strengthening market.

The atmosphere of the meeting seemed relaxed, and earlier United Arab Emirates Oil Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah declared confidently "we will agree" when asked about the danger of deadlock over a secretary general.

Informed sources had indicated that the dispute between warring Iran and Iraq over the appointment was moving towards a solution with the possible selection of a compromise Libyan appointee. Under the normal system of rotation it is Iran's turn to appoint a successor to Marc Saturnin Nguema of Gabon. But Iraq has countered with its own candidate, saying that in the event of deadlock a decision would have to be postponed until the next meeting with the deputy secretary general — who is Fadail al-Chalabi of Iraq — acting in the post.

JANA: Libya Elected Deputy, UAE Chairman

LD181732 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1530 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] London, 18 Jul (JANA) — The Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah has been elected a deputy chairman of OPEC in the meeting held by the organization this morning in the finnish capital, Helsinki. The UAE was elected chairman of the organization to follow Nigeria's chairmanship of the last session.

UAE Minister on Production, Prices, Stockpiling

PM172047 London Ash-Sharq al-Awsat in Arabic 15 Jul 83 p 1

[Shafiq al-Asadi report on interview with UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah in Abu Dhabi: "Oil Surplus Receding but Prices Will Remain Frozen Until 1985" — date not given]

[Text] *Ash-Sharq al-Awsat* Gulf Bureau — UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah has said that the world oil market is experiencing a new revival after the oil surplus has begun to recede and drop.

On the other hand Dr al-'Utaybah announced that the present oil prices will remain at the same level, which is $29 per barrel, adding that there will be no change before the end of 1985.

Dr al-'Utaybah made this statement before leaving the UAE for Helsinki in order to attend meetings of the OPEC ministerial followup committee, which includes the oil ministers of the UAE, Algeria, Venezuela, and Indonesia. This will be preceded by a meeting of OPEC's economic committee, which comprises economists from the member states, to draw up a full report on the oil market situation.

Al-'Utaybah said that the trend in the oil market is toward revival and that the member states are producing according to their quotas. For the first time production has reached 17.5 million barrels per day.

He said that there is an improvement in prices, "in that spot market prices have begun to reflect OPEC's official prices with regard to certain crude oils and have gone above the official oil prices with regard to other better-quality oils."

Al-'Utaybah considered the emergence of these signs in the summer season as evidence of the results achieved thanks to the measures OPEC adopted after the London conference in March and of the total adherence to the production quotas and official prices. He added: "This adherence has generated new confidence in the market and shown that OPEC countries are serious about defending the oil market and the official prices and will not allow the oil market to deteriorate or slide."

He said that OPEC ministers will do all they can at the Helsinki conference to defend these gains and to encourage the oil market to continue to improve without creating a shortage that might create a false rise in prices.

Continuing, he said that the ministers will also review the situation in the market and make suitable recommendations, but he expressed belief that there is no need to raise the present production ceiling. He said the question of altering the ceiling could be left to another conference when signs of improvement appear.

Al-'Utaybah said that OPEC's followup committee will call for a meeting as soon as there is a shortage in the market that might adversely affect prices and push them upward unnaturally. The committee will recommend increases in the quota after ascertaining the healthy situation of the market.

The minister denied that Nigeria has actually gone beyond the quota assigned to it at the recent London conference, which is 1.3 million barrels per day which it can produce as it wishes and at a monthly rate decided by the country itself.

He said that the price differentials given to Nigeria were the result of special circumstances, but this will be reviewed when conditions allow it so that all countries will revert to the traditional differentials with regard to the various types of oils.

Dr 'Utaybah said that an improvement in the oil market will enale OPEC to lay down a long-term strategy, a matter which the followup committee will discuss at Helsinki conference.

On the other hand, he declared that OPEC has won the stockpiling war which many powers were waging against the organization. He said: "In our future decisions we will not overlook the question of stockpiling and we will not allow the stockpiles to increase so that they can be used as a weapon against us."

He said that dialogue between the producing and consuming countries is bound to prevent the outbreak of a new "stockpile war," but that "this dialogue should be preceded by consultations and meetings in order to ensure its success." He affirmed that dialogue is one of OPEC's principal subjects in OPEC's long-term strategy.

Concluding, Al-'Utaybah said that dialogue between producing countries in OPEC and those outside it, particularly Britain, the Soviet Union, Norway, and Mexico, has achieved new results that have contributed to the stability of the oil market.

BAHRAIN

Commentary on Amir's Visit to United States

GF181416 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1337 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Manama, 18 Jul (WAKH) — Bahrain radio has said that Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah is carrying to Washington his and the GCC's view on what is going on in the Arab and Palestinian arenas — assaults being launched by forces of aggression represented by Israel. In a commentary today on this occasion, the radio emphasized that without the support and assistance Israel receives from the United States, Israel would not have gone ahead with its aggression; it would not go further into the territories neighboring the lands it has occupied under the claim of defending a homeland without U.S. support.

The radio pointed out that the existing relations between Bahrain and the United States are characterized by common interests, and if these relations are intended to continue and expand, an understanding should be reached on the overall proposed issues. The radio added that Bahrain's stand on the events in the region springs from its belief in the need to adopt correct ways to stabilize things and confirm rights because strength does not stem from control based on brutality and aggression but rather from wisdom, understanding, and adherence to international norms, regulations, and principles.

Official Reports on Status of Gulf Oil Spill

GF160442 Manama Gulf Daily News in English 16 Jul 83 p 2

[Text] Between 4,000 and 5,000 barrels of crude oil are pouring each day into the Gulf from damaged Iranian wells, while a further 20,000 barrels are burning up, the head of Bahrain's emergency pollution centre said yesterday. Khalid Fakhru said the figures were based on latest information received from Iran on the wells in the Nowruz field at the head of the Gulf, which have created the region's worst-ever pollution.

At least three wells have been leaking for about four months and forming a giant slick in the absence of an agreement to cap them, mainly due to political wrangling between warring Iran and Iraq. Fakhru said Iran also told the pollution centre that parts of the slick had been spotted two miles north of the Nowruz field.

QATAR

New Terminal, Pipeline To Be Paid With Crude Oil

GF161104 Dubayy Khaleej Times in English 16 Jul 83 p 12

[By R. Mohan]

[Excerpts] Doha — The Qatar General Petroleum Corporation (QGPC) is likely to call for fresh tenders to build a 19 million dollar oil terminal and for a 29.9 million dollar multi-products pipeline. Payment to contractors is to be made in crude oil. The QGPC had earlier called for tenders for the two projects separately from prequalified list of 20 contractors. South Korea's Hyundai submitted the lowest bid for QR 70 million ($19.2 million) for the Umm Sa'id oil terminal. Another South Korean firm, Dnelin, submitted a low bid of QR 109 million ($29.9 million) for the multiproducts pipeline from the new oil refinery in Umm Sa'id to Doha port.

The QGPC had last month decided to go ahead with the consideration of the oil terminal, postponing the award of contract for the pipeline itself. The latest from QGPC is to combine the two projects in a single tender and offer crude in payment. Hyundai had been earlier this month offered crude instead of cash for its low bid for the oil terminal. No decision had been announced by the South Korean firm, which must find buyers for the oil.

QGPC obviously finds the market favourable for such barter deals, which would not only assure the corporation of a firm market for its crude but help continue development schemes. The first such deal was made in June with Sumitomo Heavy Industries of Japan. The Japanese firm agreed to get paid in crude for work done on the desalination plant at Ra's Abu Buntas. Sumitomo had to be paid nearly 82 billion dollars for the desalination plant, work on which is receiving only the final touches. Qatar had earlier paid the first instalment of 33 million dollars in cash. With an oil glut, it was found difficult to settle the rest of the cost in cash.

AR-RAYAN Assesses U.S. Role in Middle East

GF180748 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0650 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Manama, 18 Jul (WAKH) — The Qatari paper *Ar-Rayan* has reviewed U.S. relations with the Zionist entity on one hand, and with the Arab homeland on the other. The paper stresses that the United States must exploit all these ties in order to move in the correct direction to resolve the Middle East crisis, which has been further exacerbated.

The paper refers to the statement made by Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah on the occasion of his current visit to the United States in which he stressed that one of the best means of controlling the U.S. role is a balanced policy based on UN resolutions.

The paper stresses that the continued U.S. bias toward Israel is regarded as one of the basic obstacles preventing the United States from reaching genuine and tangible progress. *Ar-Rayah* adds that a balanced U.S. role implies that Washington consider its interests in the region, the importance of maintaining its relations, and of developing them with Arab countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

Report on Sultan-Weinberger Memo Denied

LD182035 Riyadh SPA in English 1927 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Jidda, July 18 (SPA) — An Information Ministry spokesman described a recent report by a Lebanese paper regarding the so-called secret memorandum on a meeting between

Second Deputy Premier and Defence Minister Prince Sultan and his American counterpart Casper Weinberger as "baseless."

The Kingdom is well aware of publishing such news which are aimed at defaming and creating suspicion and therefore Saudi Arabia pays them no attentions, the spokesman told SPA.

Guinean President Departs Jidda 18 July
LD181516 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1225 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Jidda, 18 Jul (SPA) — His Excellency President of Guinea Ahmed Sekou Toure left Jidda at noon today following a visit to the Kingdom, during which he performed the minor pilgrimage and held a meeting with King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The president of Guinea mentioned that his talks with King Fahd concentrated on the situation in the Middle East, especially the Palestinian question. He expressed his belief in the importance of the independence of the Palestinian decision.

In a statement to SPA Sekou Toure stressed that the Israeli enemy is the source of permanent tension in the Middle East as a result of its aggressive policy and settlement policy. He also noted that he discussed with the king a number of African issues including the situation in Chad. The president of Guinea called for closing ranks to confront the joint enemy.

UAE

Manufacture of Petroleum By-Products Increases
GF161120 Dubayy Khaleej Times in English 16 Jul 83 p 3

[By staff reporter]

[Text] The UAE is well on its way to self-sufficiency in petroleum by-products. It is reported that the by-products obtained from the country's refineries currently meet nearly 50 percent of the total needs. This percentage is expected to grow substantially after cutting down imports from international oil companies.

According to sources at the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, the daily production of various categories of by-products of oil and gas account for about 45,000 barrels daily, while the country's requirement is nearly 100,000 barrels. The latest statistics show that the by-products are acquired from refining of 200,000 barrels of liquefied petroleum gas, 8,200 barrels of gasoline, 9,500 barrels of naphtha and 4,200 barrels of kerosene. It is also acquired from 5,400 barrels of diesel oil and gas oil. A large quantity of about 17,000 barrels is produced from various types of inflammable oil and gas condensates that include fuel oil.

About the consumption of oil and gas by-products in the country, the statistics indicate that the distribution is according to demands which fluctuate with the market trends. However, at present, the country is using about 18,000 barrels of gasoline and more than 16,000 barrels of kerosene per day. The fuel oil consumption is over 40,000 barrels a day, while gas oil and diesel account for over 20,000 barrels a day. The other by-products are also consumed in the UAE. It is however, negligible — only 300 barrels daily. Both Ruwa's and Umm al-Nar can now produce almost 200,000 barrels of crude oil daily. The special hydrocarbon unit at the Ruwa's refinery is expected to give a considerable boost to the refining process.

Crude Output

Meanwhile, according to an ADNOC [Abu Dhabi National Oil Company] report, released by news agencies in Abu Dhabi yesterday, the ADNOC, despite the instability of world oil market last year, had been able to sell all its crude output. The glut in the international oil market was the main cause for reduction in crude output in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in 1982 to 794,000 barrels per day from a 1981 level of 1,021,000 BPD, the report indicates.

The company's report says that this 22 per cent decline was echoed in natural gas production cutbacks of 15 per cent to 1,623million cubic feet. In both crude oil and natural gas, offshorefields bore the brunt of production decreases, ADNOC adds. The company's own production in 1982 reached 494,000 BPD, representing 61 per cent of the emirate's total, with the company reporting marked achievements in production efficiency and waste control. ADNOC's exports totalled 435,000 million BPD, with Japan, which absorbed 52 per cent of this quantity, its single largest customer in 1982.

Ramadan Interviewed on War, Other Issues
JN161704 Baghdad INA in English 1635 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, July 16, INA — Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Taha Yasin Ramadan, said that the country's current nationwide gold donation campaign was not to take up for a deficit in Iraq's gold reserves. Indicating that Iraq's gold reserve was intact, he said: Iraq has not sold any quantity of its gold reserves, and therefore there is no problem on this side.

In an exclusive interview with the English daily *Baghdad Observer in its Sunday edition, Mr Ramadan added that the* campaign served as a referendum in favour of the revolution, the party and the leader more than being a source of revenue or a currency cover.

Mr Ramadan also served a warning to foreign firms and countries adopting a negative stand towards Iraq, and said: Frankly, we will not treat those who dealt with us positively and those who did not during this period on equal footing. He called on these companies and states to consider their interests for the future, and said: Iraq is still a rich country, is still at an early stage of development and is still enjoying a solid and sound economy and the current financial situation is a temporary one related to certain and known circumstances, and not to disorder in Iraq's economy.

Mr Ramadan disclosed that at the start of the war, Iraq's Popular Army fighters numbered 230,000 while today there are over 500,000 fighters within the ranks of this Army. He added that the number of Popular Army fighters supporting the home front and positioned along the front, side by side with the Armed Forces, is nearly 100,000 at all times.

Tackling the Iraq-Iran war, the first deputy premier said that so long as the war continued and the Iranian rulers remained intransigent, and despite the fact that Iraq had no ambitions in Iran, Iraqi forces would spare no effort to put pressure on, and impede, Iran's economy using every means.

He served a clear warning to Iranian rulers and said: The damage to Iran's economy is so far not total. But should they persist in their aggression, the next phase will witness new and drastic measures to undermine its economy.

Mr Ramadan disclosed that Iraq had proposed to neutralize the entire Arab Gulf region if the oil slick caused by two damaged Iranian oil wells which spew thousands of barrels of oil each day into the Gulf was to be solved. He rejected permitting crews work on repairing the damaged Iranian oil wells, and said that this would amount to neutralizing Iran's economy as some parties had proposed. In other words, they wanted to neutralize Iran's economy to become free while Iraq's would remain restrained, he elaborated.

The first deputy premier said there was nothing new in mediation attempts to end the war, and, blaming Iran for rejecting all peace efforts, he added: We feel that there is no chance of success through such attempts.

Mr Ramadan did not rule out a new Iranian aggression against Iraq, and said that they will do this whenever they have the potential for it. He warned Iran's rulers, syaing: With all the experience our Armed Forces have accumulated, one can say without exaggeration that the next attempt — surely feeble compared to previous ones — will be doomed.

Mr Ramadan also tackled Iraq's five-year plan and said that Iraq would surpass the stage of being a developing country. Here, I am not saying that it will be a developed country but progress in all areas will continue. The basic targets of the plan has been acheived during the first and second years of the war, and we have studies designed to complete the chain towards developing a diversified economy.

Mr Ramadan also elaborated on international and internal situation, as well as various other topics.

Ramadan Receives Italian, Senegalese Ambassadors
JN181316 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1135 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jul (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received here today Antonio Napolitano, Italian ambassador in Baghdad. The ambassador brought a message to Ramadan from Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo related to developing and expanding relations of economic and technical cooperation between the two countries and the role of Italian companies operating in Iraq and their serious contribution to the comprehensive construction process.

The Italian minister expressed in his message his country's full satisfaction with the positive atmosphere that governs relations between Iraq and Italy. The Italian ambassador renewed his government's invitation to Ramadan to visit Italy.

Ramadan also received the newly appointed Senegalese ambassador to Iraq, (Yusuf Baru), on the assumption of his duties. During the meeting, the good relations between the two countries and peoples and their development during the past 10 years at various levels were reviewed.

The Senegalese ambassador explained his country's stand on the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and its support for Iraq's peaceful stands and repeated initiatives to end the war.

Envoy to Bahrain on War, Relations With U.S.
GF161004 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0805 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Manama, 16 Jul (WAKH) — Iraqi Ambassador to Bahrain Thabit al-'Ani asserted that the economic situation in Iraq is good and that development march has not stopped, nor will it stop even if war continues ad infinitum. He said that Iraq has huge oil reserves and new alternatives for the closed outlets for its oil exports. Iraq had also concluded deals with international companies to carry out massive projects.

In a statement carried in today's issue of the weekly Bahraini newspaper *Al-Adwa'*, Al-'Ani denied reports that Iraq has any intentions of controlling the Gulf. "This abnormal note is still being played by imperialism in a fervent attempt to cause our brothers in the Gulf to have doubts about our stand, because imperialism is against Arab cohesion even if it be in the narrowest geographical limit," he said.

The Iraqi ambassador to Bahrain praised the GCC countries' stand on the war and described it as a distinguished one in support of Iraq, affirming that they have made considerable efforts to put an end to this war.

On Iraq's stand on the oil slick from the Iranian Nowruz oilfield, Al-'Ani affirmed that Iraq supports the GCC countries' stand in general on the need for coordination. However, he said: The proposals of the Iranian regime are unusual, a thing which made brothers in these countries consider the latest proposals by the Iranian delegation strange. He said the Iranian regime wants to make the oil slick a bargaining issue and a means to pressure the GCC countries to influence their stand on Iraq, and also wants to make Iraq responsible for the oil slick.

On what has been recently reported about the Iranian regime's preparations to launch an all-out offensive on Iraq, the Iraqi ambassador called on the Iranian regime's rulers to be governed by reason and to be concerned about their people and to preserve the remnants of their Army. The Iraqi Army under Saddam Husayn is a strong Army and the Iraqi people are a strong people who have become used to fighting and will repulse anyone trying to commit aggression on their soil. He noted that Iraq has new advanced military and technological means able to repulse the aggressor.

On the feasibility of normalizing relations between Iraq and the United States, he indicated that means to resume relations are still open between the two parties and that there are continued diplomatic contacts, noting that a few days ago there was a meeting in France between the Iraqi foreign minister and his U.S. counterpart.

On the channels through which Iraq receives its weapons, Al-'Ani affirmed that the Revolution Command views the issue of diversification of weapons from the angle of new changes and developments, international pressures, and the balance-of-power game to prevent being cast into the lap of camps and to avoid receiving orders from others.

On the rift within Fatah, the Iraqi ambassador expressed his regret over what is going on among Palestinian brothers, affirming that Iraq supports Fatah's and the PLO's unity under Yasir 'Arafat.

YAR Chief of Staff Meets Counterpart in Baghdad

GF171406 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, chief of the joint staff and member of the Standing Committee, met in Baghdad today with General 'Abd al-Jabbar Shanshal, his Iraqi counterpart. During the meeting, they discussed aspects of cooperation between the armed forces of the two countries.

The brother chief of the joint staff arrived in Baghdad yesterday leading a military delegation to participate in the fraternal Iraqi people's celebrations of the glorious July revolution.

In a statement on arrival, Brother al-Bashiri said his participation with his accompanying delegation in Iraq's celebrations shows the strong fraternal relations between the two fraternal countries, noting that the two political leaderships are anxious to consolidate and promote these relations.

Youth Minister Ends USSR Visit, Makes Statement

JN171348 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jul (INA) — Iraqi Youth Minister Ahmad Husayn has concluded a 10-day visit to the USSR during which he headed the Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Society delegation to the friendship celebrations that took place in the USSR. He left today for Paris.

In a statement to INA, Ahmad Husayn said that he discussed with a number of Soviet officials relations regarding friendship and cooperation between the two countries in various spheres. He also reviewed the developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war, asserting that the continuation of this war, launched by Iran against Iraq, is supported by imperialist and Zionist circles.

The Iraqi youth minister had met with USSR Education Minister Prokofyev and the chairman of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet Presidium. Ahmad Husayn is scheduled to leave Paris for Tunis to participate in the meetings of the Executive Bureau of the Arab Youth and Sports Ministers Council which are scheduled to be held the day after tomorrow.

Finance Minister Discusses Gold Reserve

JN161257 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jul (INA) — Iraqi Finance Minister Thamir Razzuqi has stated that the Iraqi Central Bank has a gold reserve functioning as a cover for its currency that exceeds the ratios implemented in many countries. In a statement to INA today, Razzuqi added that Iraq's gold reserves have not been touched or used during the war with Iran in any way whatsoever.

The Iraqi minister explained that the large quantities of gold donated by Iraqi families tells us to keep these quantities in the Central Bank as additional reserves in addition to the gold reserves the bank already has as a cover for its currency.

The Iraqi minister said that our first thought had been to display these quantities of gold in a private museum where the jewelry would be displayed after the war as a vivid expression of the Iraqi woman's national feelings during the war.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Urges Initiatives To End Gulf War

JN190845 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jul (INA) — The newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah* has called for serious, persevering international initiatives to end the Iraq-Iran war. In today's editorial the paper said that to date all the initiatives to end the war have come to naught, and some of them did not even project the needed seriousness or continuity. The paper pointed out that some initiatives were meant to exploit the situation, to flirt with the Tehran rulers under the cover of mediation to realize future gains.

Accusing the Tehran rulers of foiling peace efforts, the paper said that the Tehran rulers wrecked the work of the mediation committees and ignored all calls to end the war, thus exposing the region's peace and security to danger.

The paper went on to say that in view of this situation, the indifference and the wavering, silent stands are unjustified, especially since the issue concerns states in the region that are particularly responsible for persuading Iran or forcing it to opt for peace. The paper said that these states should employ all their resources, private means, and international influence to realize peace in the region.

It said that those who believe the continuation of the war will achieve their private ends, allow them to remain unharmed, and confine losses to Iran and Iraq are shortsighted. Such thinking, the paper added, may expose the region to even greater threats than those which have afflicted it so far.

Al-Jumhuriyah said that if the war expands, it cannot be confined to certain areas. The longer it drags on, the greater its threat becomes, the more numerous its surprises, and the more harmful it will be for those who think that they are removed from it.

Military Communiques Report Recent Action

Communique No 1,153

JN151622 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1554 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 15 Jul (INA) — A military communique has said that an Iranian vehicle and two infantry positions were destroyed in the Maysan sector and that those manning the Iranian positions were killed. The communique, which was issued today by the Armed Forces General Command on military operations during the past 24 hours, also said that the Iraqi forces destroyed an Iranian hardware stockpile in the area east of Basra. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,153 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our brave Armed Forces have continued their operations at the war front against the Khomeyni regime's forces of aggression. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. One enemy vehicle was destroyed in front of our forward positions in the Maysan sector.

2. Two infantry positions were destroyed and those manning them were killed in the central sector of the front.

3. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the area east of Basra.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 July 1983

Communique No 1,154

JN161606 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1540 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Jul (INA) — During the past 24 hours Iraqi forces killed 13 Iranians and wounded others in the central and northern sectors and in the area east of Basra. Reporting this, a communique issued by the Armed Forces General Command here today added that new groups of Iranian military men sought refuge with our units in the central sector and were evacuated to the rear. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,154 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Whenever the rancorous Iranian enemy becomes so foolish and evil as to continue its aggression against lofty Iraq, it finds the men of our gallant Army waiting for it, repulsing all its criminal attempts and inflicting on its forces further defeats. The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units opened fire on a group of enemy troops opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing six and forcing the others to flee. New groups of Iranian military men, fleeing Khomeyni's hell and his suspect regime's tyranny, sought refuge with our forward units in another part of the same sector. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

2. Our forward units opened artillery fire on some enemy troops opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing five and wounding others.

3. Two were killed opposite our forward units' positions in the area east of Basra.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 July 1983

Communique No 1,155

JN171748 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1720 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,155 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 17 July]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our heroic Armed Forces, while sharing with our great people their celebration of the 15th anniversary of the glorious 17-30 July Revolution, are continuing their valiant activities against the forces of the greedy and suspect Khomeyniite clique, emphasizing that they will remain the striking arm and the strong shield protecting Iraq's lofty land and its great revolution's accomplishments. These forces will continue to score victories over the criminal enemy and defeat all its expansionist and hostile intentions and dreams.

The results of the activities carried out in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Last night one of our combat patrols clashed with an enemy force opposite our forward units' positions in the central sector of the battlefield. Our patrol managed to kill 22 enemy troops and wound others. Our forces also destroyed one enemy vehicle and one hardware stockpile in another part of the same sector.

New groups of Iranian military men, fleeing the tyranny of the regime of charlatanism and jugglery in Iran, sought refuge with one of our forward units in the same sector. They were safely evacuated to the rear.

2. Enemy troops tried to approach one of our forward unit's positions east of Basra. Our units opened fire on them, killing four, wounding others, destroying one hardware stockpile, and setting fire to some enemy positions. The columns of smoke could be seen billowing from the enemy's destroyed targets. The enemy troops' shouts for help could also be heard at our forward observation posts.

3. Four were killed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

4. Three vehicles, one gun, one excavator, and one hardware stockpile were destroyed in the Maysan sector.

5. Today the criminal Khomeyniite clique shelled Mandali and its suburbs with artillery, causing damage to some civilian establishments and orchards.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 July 1983

Communique No 1,156

JN181643 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Communique No 1,156 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 18 July]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With constant readiness to confront the greedy aggressors and score further feats and victories over the vicious Iranian enemy, our heroic Armed Forces are continuing their valiant activities in the operational sectors.

The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. At 1320 and 1325 today our brave Air Force aircraft launched strong attacks and violent raids against the enemy positions and concentrations in the areas opposite our forward units' positions in the northern sector of the battlefield and against enemy assembly points deep inside Iran. Our aircraft managed to score direct and effective hits. Fire was seen swallowing up the enemy positions, weapons, and vehicles and explosions echoed from the attacked enemy targets. All our striking aircraft returned safely to base, thanks be to God.

2. Our forward units opened artillery fire on enemy troops opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing six and wounding others.

3. Our forward units opened fire on an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing three and destroying two vehicles, two infantry positions, and one observation post.

4. Our forward units opened artillery fire on enemy troops opposite our positions east of Basra, killing four and wounding others.

5. One hardware stockpile was destroyed and set on fire in the Maysan sector.

6. Today the criminal Khomeyniite clique shelled Khanaqin and Ash-Shihabi and their suburbs with artillery, demolishing one house and damaging some civilian establishments in Ash-Shihabi.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 July 1983

Briefs

Outgoing Jordanian Ambassador — 'Izzat Ibrahim, RCC vice chairman, this morning received Falih at-Tawil, Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad, at the end of his term in Iraq. [Excerpt] [Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 18 Jul 83 JN]

Amman Radio Criticizes Syria's Arab Policy

JN181932 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Syrian officials believe that their repeated reference to Jordan as southern Syria will offend or scare us. They, that is the Syrian officials, have the right to think so because those who do not know how to read history will never be able to comprehend the lessons learned from it, become acquainted with its course, or look toward the future. We agree with the Syrian officials' reiterations that Jordan is southern Syria because geography shows that Syria is northern Jordan. The big difference between us and the Syrian officials is that we have never lost hope in the unity of the Arab land and nation. When the late Husayn ibn 'Ali carried out the first and greatest national revolution in contemporary Arab history, he carried it out against fragmentation and subservience. That is why he established the first Arab kingdom in Damascus. This kingdom would have lasted had it not been for the conspiracies and attacks carried out by the enemy forces whose interests cannot be established or flourish unless there is a state of division and dispersal.

The problem of the Syrian officials is that they have replaced history by geography and that they insist on reading history's lessons through topographical features. That is why they have committed mistakes, which could be considered as crimes, and carried out practices which we find difficult to differentiate from those practices which are being carried out by the enemy forces and powers which covet Arab history and geography.

The Syrian officials' support for Iran against Iraq and its people can only be explained by their determination to ignore facts and realities. Do the Syrian officials not consider Iraq as eastern Syria and Syria as western Iraq? One can explain the Syrian official stand against the Palestinian resistance since 1976, during the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, and now in Al-Biqa' by the fact that they ignore history and geography, and more specifically, their ignorance of the one Arab destiny. The stand toward Jordan completes the series and the tragedy. The Syrian officials forgot the reality that greater Syria is one, even if those in Damascus do not read history or insist on falsely interpreting geography.

Jordan is southern Syria. This is a reality which does not offend us but makes us proud. Syria is northern Jordan. We know that this reality does not satisfy the Damascus officials because it reminds them of a brilliant stage of the national struggle. It also reminds them of the greatness of the great Arab revolution which carried out the struggle through sacrifices and not through slogans and succeeded in protecting Arabism from all the dangers which had been lying in wait for it.

The colonialist powers' success in besieging this revolution is one aspect of the setback. Another serious aspect, however, is that there are some among us who are working to achieve division, ignite wars among the Arabs, and replace national consciousness with a chauvinist one which resembles more the Torah consciousness, the cause of our problem with world Zionism and its tool, Israel.

We must also mention that the Syrian officials speak about Palestine as being southern Syria too. This a geographical reality. The historical fact, which is more important, is that Syria's responsibility toward the goal of liberation calls for safeguarding the Arab character of Palestine and not the concept of hegemony which is taking place even under the canopy of defeat.

Village Leagues Said on Their Way to Liquidation

JN181311 Amman Sawt ash-Sha'b in Arabic 18 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] Amman — PETRA — Reports from the occupied Arab territory say that the Israeli occupation authorities are currently planning to liquidate the agent Village Leagues after their failure to implement the aims of the Israeli authorities. Their fate was due to the Palestinian citizens' confrontation of and strong opposition to these leagues — an opposition that reached the extent of liquidating some of the leagues' elements.

News agency reports say that Shlomo Ilia, head of the so-called civilian administration, had told Mustafa Dudin, head of the so-called Village League Federation, that the legacy left to him by his predecessor Milson is not a blessed one. Ilia asked Dudin to hand over to him the leagues' accounts as a prelude to freezing them and, consequently, liquidating them gradually.

President al-Jumayyil Begins Visit to Europe, U.S.

Departs 18 July

NC181410 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil left Beirut international airport at 1530 today for one of the European capitals within the framework of preparations for the talks which he will hold with U.S. President Reagan.

Meets Husayn in France

NC190637 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] On his way to Washington for a summit meeting with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil met in the French city of Cannes, where he arrived yesterday, with King Husayn of Jordan, who arrived there from the Canary Islands where he was spending his vacation. The Lebanese-Jordanian summit is within the framework of Arab consultations which Al-Jumayyil is holding prior to his official visit to the United States, which begins today.

Jordanian leaders have several times affirmed their support for Lebanon in controlling all its territory. Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim stated this during his visit to Lebanon on 24 February, affirming the need for Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon.

Quoting well-informed sources, UPI says that the talks between the Jordanian ruler and President al-Jumayyil may have dealt with the Lebanese crisis, particularly the Lebanese authorities' efforts to ensure the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. An AFP analysis says that observers noted that the meeting between President al-Jumayyil and King Husayn is the first of its kind between the Lebanese and the Jordanian leaders within the framework of the existing good relations between Amman and Beirut.

Delegation To Join Al-Jumayyil

NC190644 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] At 0330 today, the official delegation left Beirut International Airport to join President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. The delegation includes Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, presidential adviser Dr Wadi' Haddad, Ambassador Khalil Makkawi, and staff Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan.

Al-Wazzan Comments on Visit

NC191030 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0707 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Dispatch by unidentified Lebanese Information Ministry correspondent in Nice on 19 July]

[Text] An official Lebanese delegation led by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan arrived in Nice this morning. An MEA jumbo jet piloted by Captain Butrus Abi Nadir and Captain Jean Sa'd landed at Nice Airport at 0800. The delegation will spend a short time at the airport where the president, who arrived in Nice on Monday, will join them. From Nice, the presidential delegation will fly to Washington where it is expected to arrive at 1600 Washington time. At the Nice Airport lounge, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] Mr Prime Minister, a few hours after leaving Beirut for the United States, how do you view the visit and what do you hope to achieve?

[Al-Wazzan] This is not the first time that I have been asked such a question. I answered such a question several days ago. Today, on our first stopover before arriving in Washington, I can imagine how all the Lebanese people are following our moves and actions. The people have pinned their hopes for salvation on the legitimate authority. The regime abides by legitimacy, and sincerely and earnestly attempts to restore its control over every inch of Lebanese territory. It is thereby responding to its basic responsibility and to the aspirations of the Lebanese and their sincere leaders. At this phase, the regime is following up all developments and all that reflects on the Lebanese situation. If the course of events becomes inconsistent with the Lebanese interests, the regime immediately steps in to rectify the course and put it on the right path. There is no doubt that we are not alone in the region or in the world, but the world and regional struggles and interests, conflicts — all these would cause many changes or transformations which we should seek to put on the right course that serves our interests.

Hence, after all these developments which have taken place since the negotiations for ensuring the withdrawals, the president found that it is very useful at these particular circumstances to respond to the invitation the United States extended to him. We all know that we have made a stride in the negotiations leading to an agreement — which is still a mere agreement because it is not put into effect because of certain stands by all those concerned in Lebanese territory. By saying all those concerned, it must be clear that I mean the Israeli stand and the conditions it stipulates outside the core of the agreement; the Syrian stand; and the Palestinian stand and the new developments in the Palestinian situation. All these call upon us to act.

The United States, which was and still is a partner in the step we have made, must assume a basic responsibility in rectifying matters, putting them on the right course through its commitment to assist Lebanon in ensuring the necessary withdrawals and also through the fact that it is a superpower having influence on Israel. The United States has so far behaved with Israel in a way that supports and encourages Israel in all that it has done. It is our right to demand that today the United States be increasingly on the side of justice, on the side of the UN Security Council's resolutions, and on the side of its commitment to us in the agreement which provides for ensuring the complete Israeli withdrawal. This is the main goal of our visit to Washington and the talks which will be held there. There are other economic or military aspects which we are also interested in following up. We

hope that all the conclusions will be in service of Lebanon and its salvation.

[Unidentified speaker] Mr Prime Minister, political circles attach special importance to your participation in this visit with the president. What is the dimension of this participation in your view?

[Al-Wazzan] I do not know what is meant by the special dimension to which you are referring, because I do not consider that there is a special dimension. It is the government in Lebanon which decides the framework and dimensions, both with regard to this visit and with regard to the government in Lebanon — which I say, and emphasize, is of a full sharing nature. This sharing assumes increasing importance when the subject is connected with the crux of the fate. We are at a stage in which we are dealing with issues connected with the crux of the fate of this country. If there is a dimension for my participation in this visit with his excellency the president, it is from this angle from which we must all express the opinion of all the Lebanese. This is what we have been able to do so far — thanks to a complete understanding, and the unity of government, view, and work. In light of the unity of view and the unity of program, we think that we are united in action. [End recording]

Kuwaiti Paper on Al-Jumayyil's Upcoming Moves

GF181033 Doha QNA in Arabic 0835 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, 18 Jul (QNA) — The Kuwaiti paper *Al-Qabas* has reported today from Beirut, quoting Lebanese official sources, that the next moves of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil include a Lebanese initiative to hold bilateral summit meetings with a number of Arab leaders, among whom are Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, King of Saudi Arabia Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and King of Jordan Husayn.

These sources told the paper that President al-Jumayyil may meet with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, but this meeting depends on the extent of the success of the efforts exerted on the international level to pave the way for a constructive dialogue between Beirut and Damascus. The Lebanese sources also noted that President al-Jumayyil will try during his vist to the United States, which begins tomorrow, Tuesday, to convince U.S. President Reagan to increase the number of U.S. forces currently deployed in Lebanon within the multinational force by a minimum of 1,000 soldiers in order to ensure the success of the deployment plan which will be undertaken by the Lebanese Army in cooperation with the multinational force in the mountain areas from which the Israelis will withdraw.

Salim Addresses UN Security Council 18 July

NC181856 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1627 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Speech by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim delivered at the UN Security Council on 18 July — read by announcer]

[Text] Mr President: It gives me pleasure to congratulate you on your assumption to the presidency of the UN Security Council. This congratulation assumes a special meaning in view of the support which your country, the PRC, gives to Lebanon. I am confident that the Council's deliberations under your chairmanship will result in broad support for the cause of peace and stability in my country and in the area as a whole. I seize this opportunity to express my thanks and appreciation to the UN Secretary General and his aides for the report submitted to the Security Council about the UN interim force in southern Lebanon, the UNIFIL. I also express my appreciation to the states participating in the force, namely Fiji, Finland, France, Ghana, Italy, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Senegal, and Sweden. These states deserve the thanks and gratitude of the Lebanese people for their readiness to risk the lives of their sons for the sake of implementing the UN resolution to maintain peace in a country which has become the victim of regional and international conflicts.

I also would like to pay tribute to the distinguished efforts and services given by General William Callaghan, the officers and soldiers, and the UN employees of this force in difficult and complex circumstances, which led to a serious Israeli invasion of the Lebanese territory in June 1982 and to the pullout of the PLO forces from the south and from the capital, Beirut.

In response to the Israeli invasion, Syria reinforced its military presence in Lebanon, and the PLO gathered its remaining forces in the areas where the Syrian forces are present in the north and eastern Lebanon. These developments increased the complexity of Lebanon's problems, increased the tension in the area, and resulted in the presence of Syrian and Israeli forces in a more dangerous and threatening manner than before.

The cause of regional and international peace is being tested in Lebanon. Amid these developments, the UN force maintained its steadfastness and self-restraint in the face of continuous provocations, and amid this chaos it preserved the hope for peace, stability, and the law. Lebanon, which advocates the importance of the UN presence in its troubled south, always called for the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate, and the Security Council always responded to this request by renewing the mandate for periods ranging between 2 and 6 months. We request the renewal of this mandate for another 3 months — that is, until 19 October 1983. We are not requesting a change in the nature of the mandate nor a new redeployment of the force. We hope the coming 3 months will witness the beginning of the end of an era of war and destruction. We have committed our full resources to this end, and we have reason to believe that our efforts will yield the fruits they deserve.

Mr President, the Lebanese Government is undertaking intensive efforts to achieve the withdrawal of all illegal forces from Lebanon. These forces today constitute a danger to the existence of Lebanon and to the states concerned and their causes and to the cause of peace in the Middle East and in the spheres of international security and peace, which are the main concern of the Security Council. There is no international issue more urgent than defusing the powder keg in the area by ensuring the withdrawal of all illegal forces from Lebanon.

Lebanon is undertaking its diplomatic efforts with all the states concerned with the Lebanese crisis, and Lebanese envoys are

continuing their contacts with the officials in your countries on the level of bilateral relations and within the framework of the UN institutions. We shall continue these efforts and shall inform your respected Council about any progress that will be made. We shall also, within the framework of the spirit of the UN Charter and the provisions of the UN resolutions, resort to all means available to us on the diplomatic level or otherwise to achieve our aim to liberate all the Lebanese territories as soon as possible, irrespective of the pain, or difficulties, or disappointment which we may face.

We have a right to live in freedom and peace. Our neighbors may also have a right to expect that our territory should not be used as a springboard for acts of aggression against them. We shall safeguard this right for them, but let them safeguard our rights. We have for long been treated by both friends and enemies in a different way, perhaps because of extreme weakness and increased freedom. Each claimed the right to interfere in our internal affairs. Each imagined that on the basis of the rights and gains which it can achieve on our territory. [sentence as heard] It is time that Lebanon be treated like any UN member-state and not as a stage for ideological conflicts or a weapon testing field or a pulse testing place by the big powers.

We shall no longer tolerate this situation. Give us a chance and we will put our house in order. We have learned from the storm not to build on sand again.

Mr President, the Government of Lebanon has met the commitments required of it by your Council. It has sent troops to serve with UNIFIL. In addition, it has explored all possibilities to ensure total withdrawal. It is exerting maximum efforts to build a strong army, to reform public institutions, to maintain internal unity, and to lay the foundations of a stable and strong state. Lebanon is attempting this Herculean task in the face of stubborn opposition from external forces. But Lebanon shall neither waver nor falter. Others wonder: Could the country be saved? Are parts of it going to be annexed? Is it going to be partitioned? Can this citadel of democracy, freedom, and tolerance be saved from the clutches of conflicting interests around it?

Mr President, on 19 March 1978, following the Israeli invasion of southern Lebanon, the Security Council decided to set up an interim UN force to confirm the withdrawal of the Israeli forces, restore international peace and security, and assist the Lebanese Government in restoring its effective authority in southern Lebanon. While this force was unable, for reasons known to you, to fulfill its mission in full, nevertheless, it ensured relative peace and stability in its area of operation, contributed to the bolstering of the legitimate presence of the Lebanese Government, and revived the hope of the Lebanese people that their area of deployment will be extended to the international border. The presence of these forces was a meaningful expression of the UN Security Council's commitment to support Lebanon in the face of repeated violations of its sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.

Let me assure you that the Government of Lebanon, under the leadership of President Amin al-Jumayyil, is determined to restore government authority over every inch of the territory. The government is also determined to keep Lebanon intact, to preserve the unity and independence of the Lebanese people, and to present Lebanon to the world community as a model worth cultivating.

Lebanon needs the concerted attention of the Security Council to disengage it from the vortex of political conflicts in the region, and thus serve not only itself but also the cause of peace in the Middle East. In rescuing Lebanon the United Nations will rescue the state system of the Middle East and will herald an epoch of peace and stability in an area characterized by tensions and conflicts.

The problems facing Lebanon are clearly greater than those addressed by renewal or nonrenewal for UNIFIL. In renewing the mandate of the force, however, the Security Council will reaffirm to the world at large its commitment to the independence, sovereignty, and unity of Lebanon.

Mr President, I appear before you today to ask for the renewal of UNIFIL and to express to you and through you to the troop-contributing countries the gratitude of the Lebanese nation — a nation that will not hesitate to also lend, like you and them, a helping hand to a nation in need. Thank you, Mr President.

Shaykhani, French Envoy Meet, Make Statements

NC181240 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Information Minister Roger Shaykhani today received at his office at the Information Ministry French ambassador to Lebanon Paul Marc Henry and the embassy's information counselor, in the presence of Information Ministry Director General Dr Manaf Mansur. They discussed the information cooperation between Lebanon and France.

After the meeting, Minister Shaykhani said:

[Begin recording] I was visited today by the French ambassador who was accompanied by his information counselor. Present at the meeting was Director General Manaf Mansur. We discussed the future of the NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY. There was complete response. We discussed the possibility of French aid to this project. We will, God willing, before the end of September be able to install at least 20 to 30 teleprinters to transmit the NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY's news to all the press and other important centers in Lebanon.

We also discussed the possibility of cooperating with French TFL television to link our programs on 23 September. However, I learned today that there have been important and radical changes in French Television channel 1. The French ambassador will contact his government in France to clarify this subject and to find out how to develop our contacts and cooperation. The ambassador and I have great hope for success. [end recording]

The French ambassador said: I had the honor of meeting with the information minister and Dr Manaf Mansur. We discussed the implementation of the official information development plan. This includes the development of the broadcasting station and the NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY under France's supervision.

We decided to implement this on the anniversary of President al-Jumayyil's assumption of office. We also discussed the general benefits of this plan.

Prime Minister Interviewed on Hungarian Television

LD151408 Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1920 GMT 14 Jul 83

[From "Panorama" program; interview with Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan by Alajos Chrudinak in Beirut; date not given; Al-Wazzan answers in Arabic with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Excerpt] [Chrudinak] In the capital there is complete chaos and political uncertainty. Owing to the failure of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, the leaders have been overcome by a sense of helplessness and disillusion. It was in this troubled atmosphere that we met Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, on whose life an unsuccessful assassination attempt was made at the end of last week. Syria rejects the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. On the other hand, it has been approved by the Lebanese Government and parliament. However, it appears that it will be very difficult to realize this agreement.

[Al-Wazzan] By this agreement we endeavored to ensure that we would pay the lowest possible price for the Israeli withdrawal, and I believe that what we finally signed was the most one could achieve with the Israelis. This Israeli-Lebanese agreement does not fundamentally diminish our sovereignty and does not injure our national honor. I admit that it does contain certain restrictions imposed on us; however, let me remind you that the 1949 cease-fire agreement also contained such limitations. You have asked me what this agreement is worth if it cannot be realized. Well, in my view, even if it is not realized it will still not make our situation worse than it would be if we had not signed the agreement at all.

[Chrudinak] You said that this is the best possible agreement. Yet it contains provisions which may violate your national sovereignty. For example, Lebanon is not allowed to keep long-range antiaircraft missiles or, indeed, foreign or domestic military aircraft cannot fly over its territory.

[Al-Wazzan] That is not true. Aircraft can fly over our airspace. However, the Lebanese authorities must give advance warning to Israel so that Israel can be aware of the direction taken by these flights and will not, therefore, fire at them.

[Chrudinak] I have mentioned these because...

[Al-Wazzan interrupts] You are talking about these things because...

[Chrudinak interrupts] President al-Asad of Syria...

[Al-Wazzan interrupts] You are talking about these issues because all kinds of rumors and lies are being spread about the agreement. What you are saying is not true. You are disseminating rumors.

[Chrudinak] These are not rumors. The day before yesterday I interviewed Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, and he mentioned that the range of Lebanese antiaircraft missiles could not exceed 5,000 meters. He also said, for instance...

[Al-Wazzan interrupts] No, no.

[Chrudinak] That on its own territory Lebanon cannot forward arms deliveries to other countries.

[Al-Wazzan] No. I am surprised that such things should be said. I cannot understand how you can attribute these statements to President Hafiz al-Asad, whom I greatly respect and whom I know to be a person of broad vision and understanding. However if he has, indeed, said this things, it proves that the reports submitted before him with regard to this were completely incorrect.

[Chrudinak] In my view the information available to the Syrian president is correct. This is the reason why he has turned down the agreement and why he is not withdrawing his troops. Under these conditions how can Israel be made to withdraw from Lebanon?

[Al-Wazzan] I have already answered this question of yours before, but now I will try to express my opinion even more clearly. The agreement concluded between us and Israel contains no provision to the effect that Syria must withdraw from Lebanon. We rejected this Israeli demand and this is the reason why this condition was not included in the agreement. However, at a later date, following the signing of the agreement, Israel unilaterally informed the American leadership in writing that it would not withdraw its army as long as Syrian and Palestinian troops remain in Lebanon. We, who had earlier turned down this demand of theirs, informed the United States that if Israel failed to withdraw from Lebanon we would then consider the agreement as invalid or we would suspend it. We will consider it as something that has been suspended or as null and void. Then either the Arabs help us to ensure Israel's withdrawal or, if not, we will look for some other kind of solution.

[Chrudinak] What kind of solution, for example?

[Al-Wazzan] Let me keep that secret to myself. Is that clear? My people will decide at the appropriate time what it should do.

[Chrudinak] Is this perhaps connected with Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Washington, which is due in a few days? Do you think it conceivable that the United States should exert pressure on Begin, who is also visiting Washington? In your opinion, does the United States really want to exert pressure on Israel to withdraw from your country? Because, after all, that is precisely what this is about, that Israel will regroup its military forces and will create a security belt.

[Al-Wazzan] As far as the president's American visit is concerned, I can tell you that the Lebanese president has indeed been invited to Washington, but up to this time the president has not said whether he will accept or reject the invitation. He will shortly decide whether he accepts the invitation or whether for the time being he is unable to comply with it. To your question as to

whether the United States can make Israel withdraw, I would say that the United States is capable of doing that at any time. After all, Israel is the beloved child of the United States. Without the United States, Israel would have no weapons; without the United States, Israel would have no money; without the United States, Israel could not be doing all these things to us. In other words, Israel is enjoying the fullest possible support and protection of the United States. Do not be surprised by what I am saying now. We know this very well. We still turned to the United States for help because it is precisely America that is extending its protection to Israel. We are turning to the country that is providing money and arms for it and which is capable of exerting an influence over Israel's actions. This is the reason we have turned to America, although we know well that America has its own political objectives in this region.

Defense Minister Discusses Rebuilding Army

NC161927 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Speaking in "The People's Parliament" program over the Voice of Lebanon, Defense and National Education Minister 'Isam Khuri has affirmed that the state is determined to strengthen the Army in both manpower and equipment in order to be able to sufficiently secure our borders and territory. He denounced the attacks which took place in Beirut yesterday and in 'Alayh the day before yesterday, announcing that the law will reach all those accused of the attack and that the Army will suppress any infringement of law, order, and the citizens' security.

Replying to a question about the incidents and attacks which took place against Army patrols in Wadi Abu Jamil and the 'Alayh traffic circle, he said: I very much regret these incidents and attacks on the Army, and I denounce and condemn them. I point out that the attacks on the Army began when one group began to attack it and another group began to strongly defend it, prompting one to believe that the Army is divided. What is most regrettable is hearing voices say that they do not want the Army. If we do not want the Lebanese Army, what do we want? A foreign army? Armies of militias? Or armies of the parties?

In my opinion, Minister Khuri said, the Army must be isolated from political differences, because it is not responsible for these negative differences. The Army is for all Lebanon. It is not the Army of Al-Basta, or Al-Ashrafiyah, or Juniyah, or Jubayl, or Tripoli, or Zahlah, or Sidon, or Tyre. It is the Army of Lebanon and for all Lebanon. He added: As a citizen and as an official, I cannot at all accept that gunfire, or stones, or accusations should be directed at the Army. Every bullet that is directed at the Army is, in effect, directed at the chest of every Lebanese. The attackers will not escape the punishment of both law and conscience. We are in a conscience-testing state, and we have asked the military general prosecution to pursue the people accused of the attack.

The minister spoke about reinforcing the Army both morally and materially, since it would be impossible to build a national army without a cause — which is the moral element. We are against a partisan army and a sectarian army, because this does not suit Lebanon. The Army which we are trying to build is the Army which will protect the homeland, its security, and stability.

Minister Khuri pointed out that 11,000 volunteers have joined the Army. He said: We are aspiring to an army of no fewer than 60,000 men.

He referred to the assistance friendly states are giving in equipping the Army, based on a three part plan. The first source of equipment and training is the United States. There are contracts with various other states, especially France. Asked about the Air Force, he said that there are technical options for equipping the Air Force with French or U.S. aircraft. He said that the choice is up to the technicians. The defense minister expects the Army and the military equipment to figure prominently in the talks Presidents Al-Jumayyil and Reagan will hold at the upcoming Washington summit.

Minister Khuri pointed out that it is planned that the Army will assume control of the areas step by step until the goal we are seeking — which is to impose the state's sovereignty over all the Lebanese territory — is achieved. We, the defense minister said, are able today to assume all the security responsibilities. We hope that we will assume this task soon in all the Lebanese territory. We will not abandon 1 inch of this homeland's 10,452 sq km. The minister stressed the need for comprehensive and complete withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon. He also expressed readiness to fill any security vacuum after every withdrawal.

In reply to another question, he said that the random shelling of the Al-Matn and Kasrawan coasts is aimed at killing innocent people. An investigation is underway, and information is being gathered to shed light on this matter. No sincere Lebanese accepts such attacks on innocent people for the sake of killing, he said.

Walid Junblatt Interview With AL-MAJALLAH

PM172011 London Al-Majallah in Arabic 16-22 Jul 83 pp 10-13

[Interview with Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt by Ilyas Harfush in Amman — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Why are you in Amman?

Answer: Because there is more freedom of expression and movement here than in Beirut, which has now become a prison. The great information center of old is now finished. I have no intention of returning to Al-Mukhtarah in the shadow of the "Lebanese forces" and the Israeli forces.

Question: There is an Israeli plan for withdrawal from the mountain area as part of what they call a redeployment of forces in Lebanon. The Lebanese state intends to send forces to the mountain area, that is in addition to the multinational forces. How do you view the entry of the Lebanese Army into your areas?

Answer: Our position is clear. We will never allow the Lebanese

Army to enter Ash-Shuf or the mountain area except under a political settlement with the Lebanese regime. So far, however, President al-Jumayyil apparently does not want any political settlement. He wants to subjugate Ash-Shuf as he subjugated West Beirut, but we will firmly oppose this and will never accept it.

Question: At the beginning of the present regime your relations with President al-Jumayyil were good and your visits to the palace were regular, even when fighting as raging in Ash-Shuf. What changed this relationship, and what are your reservations regarding the Lebanese regime?

Answer: My relations with Al-Jumayyil were social relations, nothing more. We had hoped that Amin al-Jumayyil would draw up a plan for national accord. We gave him a great opportunity, and he knows it, but his regime has gradually turned into a Phalangist regime as reflected in the government and Army appointments and in the domestic policy. In the beginning we tried to prevent the expansion of the mountain war. The leaders met twice in the Presidential Palace but no results were achieved because our conditions were not met. These conditions were: withdrawal of foreign elements from the mountain area and closure of the barracks. The mountain war later intensified and expanded. Al-Jummayil claims that hidden hands are playing with the situation in the mountain area. This is not true. The "Lebanese Forces" and the Phalange Party are the ones playing with the situation in the mountain area. They want to control that area. They went there under the pretext of protecting the Christians but, regrettably, there is not one single Christian citizen left in the mountain area. The "Lebanese Forces" have stayed there while the Christians were evacuated from 'Alayh and the mountain villages because of violence. As regards the government, President al-Jumayyil has put his own henchmen in charge of government departments.

Question: The Phalange Party claims that the main cause of the mountain war is the Phalangists' refusal to allow you to continue to monopolize political activity in the mountain area. They want all other parties to have a chance to participate in this activity, but you refuse and oppose the setting up of Phalange Party centers in the areas under your control. What is your answer to that?

Answer: The Phalangists and others know that I have banned a Palestinian presence in the mountain area. I made that decision because I did not want the mountain area to become, like the south, a place of anarchy and many parties and other things. The main presence in the mountain area is that of former President Camille Sham'un. Unfortunately, there is a Sham'unite-Phalangist conflict over the Christians of the mountain area. All the Druze and Christian inhabitants of that area have paid the price of this conflict. If Joseph al-Hashim, one of the Phalangist leaders close to President Amin al-Jumayyil, wants to mount his election campaign with the destruction of the mountain area, then this is not a policy. We are for democratic dialogue by all parties in the mountain area but we are against the domination of the area by a certain group.

Question: Are there any demands you wish the regime to meet before you resume your dialogue with it, or do you consider your break with President al-Jumayyil to be final?

Answer: I have repeatedly tried to have a dialogue with President al-Jumayyil but without any results. As regards the demands, some are related to the Druze community while other demands are national demands. There are also general demands. The Lebanese regime must understand that the only way out of the present situation is national accord which must be achieved with Walid Junblatt, Nabih Birri (leader of the Shi'ite Amal Movement), [former Prime Minister] Rashid Karami, [former President]Sulayman Franjiyah, and other leaders and influential personalities.

Question: Does this mean that the break with the regime is final?

Answer: So far there are no signs that President al-Jumayyil wants to promote national accord. He wants to promote the Phalangist plan. We cannot have a dialogue with him on that basis and we will never allow him to fully rule the country if his aim is to consolidate the one party.

Question: Can you and your allies form an opposition government to run the affairs of the areas not under the regime's control at present?

Answer: There is no need for opposition to take the form of a government, but there should be opposition and this is what President al-Jumayyil does not want. The press is finished in Beirut. Lebanese public security men now threaten the jounalists and the politicians. My opposition is not an opposition from abroad. My allies are in Lebanon and from time to time I personally go to Al-Matn and Al-Biqa'. I will return to Beirut when I feel that the atmosphere there is suitable.

Question: You stand accused of trying to set up a Druze state in the mountain area through the war fought there. The Phalange Party has accused you of that and it claims that you have told some Arab personalities that Israel and the Phalange Party were putting pressure on the Druze in the mountain area to impose a fait accompli on them and make them set up their own state. What is the truth? Do the Druze really want to set up an independent state in the mountain area?

Answer: Our war in the mountain area is not a Druze war. That war was generated by a nationalist trend in the southern suburb of Beirut and in southern Lebanon against Israeli and Phalangist practices.

As regards the Phalangists' charge that our aim is to set up a Druze state, it is neither true nor acceptable. The Druze state plan is nothing but a rumor by the Phalange Party. What happened in the mountain area is that Israel brought in the "Lebanese Forces" to put pressure on the Druze so that they would seek Israel's protection. There was no problem in the mountain area before the Israeli invasion. There were some isolated incidents but they never reached the level of what is happening now. On the contrary, the mountain area was everyone's refuge. Now Israel and the Phalange Party have turned it into a mass of military fortifications. Israel is trying to play the Druze card but the Druze political decision, whether mine, Majid

Arslan's, or Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqra's, is adherence to Lebanon, insistence on Lebanese and Arab identity, and rejection of suicidal partition schemes.

Question: Since you reject military control of the mountain area by any one side, why did you not fight Israel when it invaded the area? You were in Al-Mukhtarah at that time and you met with Israeli Labor Party leader Shimon Peres. Your former ally Yasir 'Arafat accuses you of handing the mountain area over to Israel without a fight. Why did your forces not stand up to the Israeli forces in the mountain area?

Answer: Let me ask you first, why did the south not stand fast? I do not want to have an argument with 'Arafat now because he has enough problems and I hope he solves them through democratic dialogue and reform inside his movement. I just want to say that the south did not fight, although there were some individual heroic operations, but with no decision [by the leadership to fight]. On the contrary, Al-Haj Isma'il, who has now been appointed commander of the Palestinian forces in Tripoli and Al-Biqa', had orders to abandon Sidon and the south. The mountain area, having seen the Palestinian forces retreat, was unable to stand fast alone in the face of the Israeli onslaught. It is folly to think otherwise. The mountain area stood fast in 'Alayh along with the Palestinians and the Syrians. In Ash-Shuf, a small area only 20 km long, steadfastness was impossible from a military standpoint.

Question: It appears from what you say that you support the mutineers in the Fatah dispute.

Answer: Yes, I do have a stance regarding that dispute. I visited Abu Salih [rebel leader Nimr Salih]in Damascus and told him that I hoped there would be no Palestinian civil war, but I do support internal reform within Fatah, which is suffering from an internal disease. One should learn from the experiences of southern Lebanon, Sidon, Tripoli, and Jordan. So far Fatah has made no reassessment of the Jordan experience and the internal difficulties.

Question: Let us move to the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. What is your criticism of the agreement?

Answer: That agreement has, directly or indirectly through Sa'd Haddad and the local militia, given Israel absolute power in the south. It will be followed by economic openness which is detrimental to the Lebanese economy. This will be followed by exploitation of the south's water resources of the Al-Hasbani and Al-Litani rivers.

Furthermore, the agreement prevents any Lebanese citizen from criticizing Israel. We have given up some territory in the south. Therefore, what is to prevent Syria from asking for similar territory on security and national grounds? What would be left of Lebanon then? The Lebanese-Israeli agreement also cancels Lebanon's commitments to the Arab world.

Question: The Lebanese Government maintains that it had no choice but to sign the agreement to get Israel to agree to withdraw its forces and end the occupation.

Answer: My answer is that the Lebanese authorities should have clung to the UN resolutions and should have relied on the worldwide support for Lebanon. By signing the agreement the Lebanese authorities have exonerated Israel, which is occupying our territory, and have lent international credibility to the Israeli occupation.

Question: If you had been in the Lebanese Government's place what would you have done to get the Israelis out of Lebanon?

Answer: First of all they have not managed to get the Israelis out with this agreement. The agreement will remain mere ink on paper and will lead to the partition of Lebanon. This is not the first time in history that a country has been occupied. Occupation is met with popular resistance. Al-Jumayyil and his government should have capitalized on the Lebanese resistance against the occupation which has now forced Israel to effect a partial withdrawal from the mountain area, and they should have formed a national front. Israel has decided on partial withdrawal as a result of resistance operations against its forces, not as a result of the agreement they signed. In the government's place I would have insisted on the UN resolutions which urge Israel to withdraw unconditionally and I would have gone to the United Nations and also called on the United States to get Israel to withdraw. What did happen is that we capitulated to the U.S. conditions because the "lobby" around President al-Jumayyil — if not Al-Jumayyil himself — is a pro-U.S. lobby, ranging from Elie Salim to Wadi' Haddad and others.

Question: On the basis of your contacts and alliance with the Syrians do you believe that the Syrian position is final?

Answer: Syria has no alternative but to reject the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. With Damascus within range of the Israeli artillery 23 km away, I do not think that Syria can accept the agreement. This is quite obvious.

Question: Could the U.S.-Syrian contacts produce results regarding withdrawal from Lebanon, and would Syria accept an offer of a security area in Lebanon similar to that given to Israel?

Answer: I am Syria's ally today but I am against giving Syria a security zone in Lebanon as I am against giving Israel such a zone. The danger of the agreement is that it could lead to the partition of Lebanon and could, one way or another, precipitate the small Lebanon concept. I do not believe that the United States or the Lebanese authorities have anything to offer the Syrians to change their position.

Question: What about your contacts with the U.S. side. Are there any U.S. attempts to mediate between you and President al-Jumayyil?

Answer: I maintain good contacts with the Americans through their ambassador in Amman, but I know that they are committed to the present regime and there is no room for agreement with them.

Sham'un Views Security Matters, Agreement

NC171331 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] In an interview with the Voice of Lebanon today, [former] President Camille Sham'un maintained that President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Washington will bolster U.S. readiness to work for the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon.

Regarding the deployment of the Lebanese Army in the mountain area, Sham'un said: There are two possibilities: either an Israeli withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River as seemingly will happen now, or no withdrawal. If withdrawal takes place there is no alternative to the Army assuming security affairs in the mountain. But this may require preparations and reassurance to all. The Army does not belong to one party or faction. Its task is clear — to impose the required security and stability for the good of the state and its people. Sham'un added that he is fully convinced of the Army's ability to control the situation and to provide security for all the people.

He said that Mr Junblatt's demands are due to the fear of his followers that this or that group will be punished. Nothing of this is being planned or considered. Matters are being tackled with Mr Junblatt, and this confirms that there is no intention to undermine the entity of any group. There is no intention or even an idea to do that, and there is no justification for such fear. The state, the Army, and the residents of the area are all interested in the restoration of calm, stability, and peace to all the people.

Regarding the incidents which took place in Wadi Abu Jamil, Sham'un maintained that the matter ended at this point. No one accepts that the Army should be attacked, and the state cannot submit to anarchy and terrorism. The security men who were executing a judicial order should not have been attacked — something which compelled the Army to intervene.

Sham'un wondered about the fate of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement which provided for the Israeli withdrawal. The public, Sham'un said, is urgently awaiting the government's announcement of its final position vis-a-vis the agreement. Either its implementation will begin or it will be abrogated in favor of a better agreement.

Camille Sham'un Interview With AL-HAWADITH

PM172023 London Al-Hawadith in Arabic 15 Jul 83 pp 19,20

[Interview with former Lebanese President Camille Sham'un by Shirbil Zughayb "during a hunting trip" — date and place not given]

[Excerpts] *Al-Hawadith*: The United States has declared that it will go all the way with Lebanon in order to solve the problem, but its action so far has been confined to the agreement [with Israel] which has not been implemented and to the shuttle trips by Ambassador Philip Habib and his aides. Do you believe that the United States is actually unable to solve Lebanon's problem or that it has other plans that it wants to implement through Lebanon?

Sham'un: We are not criticizing the U.S. policy just for the sake of criticism. The United States has recently proved its willingness to help Lebanon. It intervened in the negotiations that were held which led to the 17 May agreement. We cannot doubt its sincerity, but the U.S. policy is confused. There are things that stand in the way of this policy, and either the White House does not have the means to overcome these things or U.S. policy stops at a certain limit beyond which it does not go if it feels that its efforts are not likely to succeed. Sometimes it might get confused, but this does not mean that the will to help Lebanon does not exist.

With regard to the agreement, which has not been implemented, we must first publish it officially and ratify it so that it becomes effective, because failing to publish it could lead the parties to it objecting to its implementation because its provisions would become outdated. But if there is any party that wants to delay its implementation or procrastinate over it then by ratifying it and exchanging the instruments of ratification we will confront the party concerned with its responsibilities because the agreement provides for the restoration of Lebanese sovereignty in full over all Lebanese territory. Why then should we not seek to make this agreement official and ratify it so that it will become effective, particularly since this agreement is meant for implementation and not freezing.

Al-Hawadith: But Your Excellency had certain undeclared reservations regarding this agreement despite the fact you voted for it in the Chamber of Deputies. Does your reservation concern the essence of the agreement or the principle of concluding it?

Sham'un: My reservations concern certain things in the body of the agreement.

Al-Hawadith: For example?

Sham'un: I will not answer.

(I stopped putting questions and Sham'un went on firing his shotgun at the flying pigeons, downing some of them. Smiling, he continued)

My objections concern the fact that Israel has obtained a security zone larger than expected. The security zone should be restricted to the area between the Al-Litani River and the Lebanese-Israeli borders, and security in this area should be the task of the Lebanese Army and not a joint Lebanese-Israeli force. This is one point that I wish the agreement dealt with it in the manner I have just mentioned.

There is also a provision regarding the arming of the Lebanese Army. Clause one of the supplement defines the types of weapons which the Lebanese Army can have in the security zone. Defining the types of arms outside the security zone as well is even more serious. The Lebanese delegation should have rejected this clause. I ask the Lebanese Government to immediately return to negotiations in order to rescind this clause.

Al-Hawadith: Israel is planning to redeploy its forces, which means withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River. Does Israel's plan in your opinion envisage handing the areas from which its withdraws to the Lebanese Army, or is it a plan intended to fan the flames of communal strife in those areas?

Sham'un: I have more than once demanded and demand now the withdrawal of the Israeli army from 'Alayh and Ash-Shuf so that the Lebanese Army will replace it because this Army is the only force with the capability and sufficient experience to preserve security. It also has the power to do so. There is a great desire by the inhabitants — almost 90 percent — for the Lebanese Army to enter this area and to take over security there.

Al-Hawadith: Nobody disagrees with this, but does Israel intend to withdraw and hand over to the Lebanese Army the areas it withdraws from?

Sham'un: Yes, Israel will hand over to the Lebanese Army the areas it withdraws from. Enough of this looking for intentions that do not exist so as to arouse the reader's curiosity and tell him that we are revealing secrets!

Al-Hawadith: There are conflicting analyses regarding the Syrian-Palestinian war. Some say that Syria's taking control of the resistance would facilitate withdrawals from Lebanon while others say the contrary. What is your opinion?

Sham'un: The Syrian-Palestinian war has nothing to do with withdrawals from Lebanon. The dispute between Mr Yasir 'Arafat and the Syrians is deeper than that. It is because Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] stands accused by the Syrians that in his policy he is inclined toward Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Iraq. This is the reason for the recent persecution of Yasir 'Arafat by the Syrian authorities. It is the basic reason.

Al-Hawadith: Your Excellency, do you believe that Syria could withdraw from Lebanon through neogotiations?

Sham'un: Ask the Syrians.

Al-Hawadith: Despite the fact that Yasir 'Arafat is facing major and many critical difficulties, he is acting as if he is remaining. Do you expect a change in the Palestinian leadership, and if such changes take place will it be in Lebanon's interest?

Sham'un: If any change takes place in the PLO leadership it will have adverse effects on Lebanon because the person who will take over the PLO's leadership will be Syria's "man." The Syrians' attitude toward Lebanon is known; it is hostile in the full sense of the word.

Al-Hawadith: Are Lebanon's relations with Abu 'Ammar good?

Sham'un: Maybe they are not good, but they could be much worse.

Al-Hawadith: But if Abu 'Ammar were able to consolidate his position in the PLO's leadership do you think that he would withdraw from Lebanon?

Sham'un: Of course not, because he will be under the Syrians' thumb in any case.

IDF Helicopters Reported in Al-Baruk Highlands

NC181804 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] This afternoon, the armed socialists directed sniper fire from B'aqlin toward Dayr al-Qamar and Dardurit; from Kafr Him and (Ad-Dumit) toward Sirjbal; and from Al-Jahiliyah toward Binwati and [words indistinct].

Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' reports that at 1815 today, two Israeli helicopters combed the Al-Baruk highlands because of the suspected presence of infiltrators.

The radio correspondent adds that this is the first time that the Israeli army has resorted to such a measure in the Al-Baruk mountains.

The Voice of Lebanon has information stating that 'Abdallah Ramadan, an official of an organization in Ba'labakk, has received a large amount of money from Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], in addition to a quantity of arms and ammunition as part of the dissidents' plan to attract the organizations in the area.

VOL on Ash-Shuf Clashes, Explosions 18 July

NC182156 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Our correspondent in Ash-Shuf reports that clashes have been going on for about an hour between B'aqlin and Kafr Him on the one hand and between Dayr al-Qamar and Dardurit on the other.

Heavy weapons are being used in these clashes, which were still in progress when this report was prepared.

From Al-Biqa', our correspondent reports that the Israeli forces opened fire on the Hawsh al-Harimah axis from 2110 to 2140. During this operation, 60 caliber mortars and flares were used.

A security report says that at 1850, an explosive charge went off on the Riyad as-Sulh Boulevard in Sidon near the Chamber of Commerce and Industry building.

A report came from the area earlier, that is, at 1915, and said that an explosive charge exploded in a grove near the Shu'ayb Hospital at the southern entrance to the city of Sidon, but no casualties were reported.

This security report adds that an Israeli military expert defused an explosive charge that had been planted on the roadside near the Electricity Company building, in the area of the Jazzin crossroad.

Security Developments in North

NC181838 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1732 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] In the north, the Palestinians have warned the residents of the 'Alma ash-Sha'b township that they must leave their houses, otherwise they will be subjected to persecution. An official in the area has warned against submitting to the Palestinian blackmail, and has announced his readiness to oppose the Palestinian practices.

In Tripoli, a statement was distributed today. It was issued by the head of the 10,458 square kilometers movement, Mr Muhammad Abu Kamil. The statement said: We ask those who have intercepted the Army in the Al-Biqa', on the mountain, and in Beirut why they do not point their rifles to Israel, which is usurping one third of our homeland, or to the Syrian Army, which is occupying one third of our homeland? Have the compatriots in Tripoli forgotten who killed, took away, and arrested innocent people and who preferred various charges against these innocent people and led them to the prisons of Damascus?

The statement said in conclusion: The Lebanese Army is not our enemy. On the contrary, the Lebanese Army is drawn from our sons. The interception of the Lebanese Army is an unforgivable crime committed against the homeland and the citizens.

It has been reported from the south that an explosion has occurred on the Sayniq bridge — the southern entrance to the city of Sidon. This explosion was followed by an Israeli combing operation.

Information from Sidon says that three Israeli soldiers were wounded in the explosion of a rocket that was being inspected by one of them at the Israeli roadblock on the Sayniq bridge.

At An-Najjariyah, near Al-'Addusiyah in the south, a huge fire has destroyed crops in a large area.

Northerners Preparing To Fight Palestinians

NC181958 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Excerpt] On the security theme, in the north gunmen of the Franjiyah clan have been reinforcing positions along the frontline of the Al-Batrun and Al-Kura regions and around Zgharta.

On Syrian orders, ex-President Sulayman Franjiyah has visited these positions in an effort to boost the morale of his partisans. (?He affirmed): This time the battle will be with the Palestinians in the north.

Private sources have revealed that Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas has asked the former president as well as ex-Premier Rashid Karami and the leader of the Islamic Unity Movement, Sha'ban, to start recruitment of youths between 14 and 20 to counter the steps taken by Yasir 'Arafat.

General Talas has expressed the readiness of the Syrian regime to give a salary of 3,000 Lebanese pounds a month to volunteers plus medical treatment in the event of injury, with 25,000 Lebanese pounds compensation to families of fatal casualties.

At 1915 today, an explosion occurred in Sidon on the Ma'ruf Sa'd highway. There were no reports of casualties.

IDF Moves Forces to Mountain; 2 Israelis Wounded

NC181218 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] This morning the Israeli forces intensified the transfer of forces along the coastal road from the south to the mountain. Many Israeli personnel carriers and trailers carrying tanks and halftracks were seen passing through Sidon.

At 0930 an explosive device went off 100 meters from an Israeli position near the Sayniq bridge at the Maghdushah intersection. At the bridge, an Israeli soldier fired by mistake an Energa shell wounding two other Israeli soldiers. The Israeli forces sealed off and combed the area.

RFL: Lebanese Forces Communique Scores Junblatt

NC181936 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] The official spokesman of the Lebanese Forces issued the following communique:

The Command Council of the Lebanese Forces held its weekly meeting under the chairmanship of Mr Fadi Afram and with the attendance of its members. The members present examined the current developments and stressed the following points:

First. The terrorist operation perpetrated by Junblatt elements in 'Alayh — the attack on the patrol of the Lebanese Army — as entering the framework of the subversive plot set up by the Syrian regime and aiming at obstructing the liberation of Lebanon. [sentence as heard] The opposition of the Junblatt section to the entry of the Army in the areas of 'Alayh and Ash-Shuf is a political opposition and does not have any confessional [as heard] character, as Mr Walid Junblatt tries desperately to prove to public opinion following the instructions of Syria and Libya. The Lebanese Forces support the deployment of the Army in 'Alayh and in Ash-Shuf and calls on the honorable Druze community to oppose Junblatt's negative policy and to back the deployment of the regular forces in those two regions.

Second. The aggressions which were aimed against the Lebanese Army in some areas of West Beirut. These are an episode completing what happened in the town of 'Alayh. On the one hand, Walid Junblatt and his party tried to prevent the entrance of the army in 'Alayh and in Ash-Shuf, and on the other hand tried to involve Greater Beirut in the cycle of terror and anarchy. This situation imposes on the Army reinforcement of measures in order to be able to uproot terrorism, which still remains in a number of regions.

Third. The continuing savage shelling of the peaceful inhabited areas is still going on. Its objectives are known and its results also.

There only remains to determine quickly the means of remedying this abnormal situation in order to put an end to the shelling of innocent blood as well as to the considerable material damage and to prevent the savage and unjustified shelling now becoming a routine factor in the citizens' daily life, to which public opinion and the international observers have become accustomed. That is the end of the Lebanese Forces' communique.

Two Killed in Beirut; Bomb Explodes in Sidon
NC182018 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] At 2050 today, gunfire was opened at a Mercedes near Galerie Sim'an, killing one person named Jihad 'Abd ar-Razzaq and an unidentified child. An investigation is underway.

At 1850 today, an explosion took place in Riyad as-Sulh square in Sidon, near the Chamber of Commerce. The Israeli forces cut the roads leading to the area. The losses are not yet known.

Syrian, Al-Khatib Forces Clash in Al-Biqa' 19 July
NC190836 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] We have learned from our correspondent in Al-Biqa' that aclash took place in Majdal 'Anjar in Al-Biqa' between the Syrian Army and Ahmad Al-Khatib's group. Two people were killed and one was wounded on the Syrian side. A citzen named Ahmad Yusuf was killed, a number of others were wounded.

Our correspondent adds that the Syrian forces are raiding houses to search for those who took part in the incident.

Commentary on Mediation Between Lebanon, Syria
JN181303 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Relations between Syria and Lebanon were not created by an individual, a ruler, an era, a party, or a group. Relations between the two fraternal countries were created by geography and history, by joint life and interests, and by common identity and fate. These relations were based on the fact that there is no contradiction between the basic interests of the two countries. Casual factors cannot affect this fact. This has been borne out by the many experiments through which the two countries passed during the present century. Nothing was able to split what has been solidified by geography, history, nature, culture, and interests.

Despite external factors and influences, the shortest path between Syria and Lebanon is the path that connects Beirut and Damascus; whether it passes through London, Paris, or Washington. In the past, all those who thought that they could reach Damascus through Paris or London were mistaken. Also mistaken are those in Lebanon who believe today that the road to Damascus passes through Washington, that the Lebanese voice will be more audible if it comes through U.S.-made microphones; and that this voice will be more persuasive if the talks are conducted in English or rather, American English. Those who cannot understand Damascus in Arabic will not be able to understand better if Damascus Arabic is rendered to them in English. Syria does not speak in two languages; it is not double-faced, and does not practice two policies.

When Syria said, through its president and leader Hafiz al-Asad, that if the Israeli invaders withdraw from Lebanon there will be no problems between Syria and Lebanon, it said it in Arabic, the language of Lebanon and Syria. It said this to those who should hear it in Lebanon. This Syrian position has not and will not change. No Lebanese will be able to hear better words or see a better position if he decides to hear from a go-between or wants to see Syria's position through mediators. This highly effective Syrian card was given to the Lebanese side to strengthen its position and its struggle against the Israeli occupation, and defend its independence, sovereignty, dignity, and the unity of its territory, people, and identity. However, this card was not put at the disposal of the Israeli invaders or their strategic allies in Washington.

If certain Lebanese officials do not exploit this Syrian card in Lebanon's interests, this is not Syria's fault. Those who signed the U.S.-Israeli agreement, which is detrimental to the interests of Lebanon, Syria, and the Arabs, and which impinges on Lebanon's independence and sovereignty, should know that Syria will not assist in any form in rewarding aggressors and invaders. The Syrian card was given to Lebanon and the Lebanese people and not to the rulers of Tel Aviv and Washington.

By rejecting the U.S.-Israeli agreement of submission through President Hafiz al-Asad, Syria wanted to protect the interests of Lebanon, Syria, and the Arab nation. Syria was very clear in its criticism of an opposition to the agreement's harmful, negative aspects. Those who know Syria must know that whatever is rejected by Syria is irrevocably rejected forever, regardless of whether the language in which those who hope for a change is in Arabic or English. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz had this experience.

Therefore, those who hope to speak to Syria must not use the ignominious agreement as a means for doing so.

Al-Ba'th Assails Al-Jumayyil's U.S. Visit, Plans
JN191130 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 19 Jul 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "What About Al-Jumayyil's Visit and Its Results," the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* says: In the wake of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Washington, there is increasing speculation regarding that visit and its anticipated aims and results. Some parties, which welcomed the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and created appropriate circumstances for its continuation, have described the Al-Jumayyil visit as a rescue operation. Other parties see the visit as a move that will not realize the Lebanese regime's dreams. But a third party warns of the visit and its results, asserting that the dimensions of the visit will endanger not only Lebanon, but also the Arab nation. In fact, this view is not an inference, but the result of a series of positions taken by the Lebanese regime consistent with the U.S. and Israeli plans against the region.

What is really important are the results of Al-Jumayyil's visit to Washington. Al-Jumayyil's Foreign Minister Elie Salim, who is currently preparing for his president's visit, the day before yesterday referred to some anticipated results and said: We should put the Lebanese-Israeli agreement aside and work out a new formula to ensure Syria withdraws its forces from Lebanon.

Following Salim's remarks, Washington affirmed that the new formula was ready, but no details of its contents were disclosed. But in view of the nature of the multidimensional U.S.-Israeli moves, and according to Begin's statements that there is no obstacle to the proposed U.S. solutions other than Syria, we can assert that the new formula is a military one. We can also say that this new formula includes a peace treaty between Lebanon and the United States — a treaty whose possible conclusion was previously referred to by Al-Jumayyil himself.

Beirut reports have affirmed that during his talks with the Americans Al-Jumayyil will focus on sending more U.S. troops to Lebanon. He will also discuss with the U.S. Administration, according to the news agencies, a final agreement on the redeployment of the Israeli invasion forces in Lebanon; a redeployment that will enable these forces to confront any development, especially the escalating Lebanese nationalist operations, or to undertake any action that serves the U.S.-Zionist-Phalangist plans in Lebanon and in the region.

The Lebanese regime's actions assert their involvement in the conspiracy. This is evident not only in the regime's indifference to the Lebanese masses' will, but also in helping the enemies of

Lebanon to kill the Lebanese people's spirit and national will by staging campaigns of terrorism and evacuation. There is no doubt that the Lebanese regime is seriously planning with the United States and Israel against Syria in an attempt to make Syria change its position on the agreement of submission intended to be imposed on Lebanon and its people.

Al-Ba'th concludes: The reply to the Lebanese regime's method came from Beirut yesterday when the nationalist elements called for preparing a national charter ensuring the expulsion of the Zionist invaders from Lebanon and the restoration of Lebanon's freedom, stability, and independence. Syria will continue its position on the agreement of submission and it will back any effort to rescue Lebanon from its crisis.

French Parliamentary Delegation Pays Visit

Received by Khaddam

JN161334 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] At 1330 today 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received the visiting French National Assembly delegation headed by Maurice (Pour), chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee. The talks revolved around the current political situation in the region.

Al-Asad, Az-Zu'bi Meetings

JN181249 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad at 1230 today received the French parliamentary delegation headed by Maurice (Pour), chairman of the French National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee. The meeting was attended by Dr Muhsin Bilal, head of the foreign affairs committee of the People's Assembly, and Henri Servant, the French ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting between People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi and the French delegation this afternoon, the two sides reviewed French-Syrian parliamentary relations and the possibility of promoting them through mutual meetings and visits. The two sides also discussed the exchange of viewpoints on various matters that would bring the countries closer together, especially those related to the Middle East and international issues.

Az-Zu'bi pointed out the European political stands on the region's issues and the need to strengthen and develop these stands in order to support right and justice. He stressed that France in particular, and the EC in general, are qualified to play a more effective role in these issues. Az-Zu'bi also referred to European interests in the region and the connection between European security and the region's security. Az-Zu'bi stressed that the French role on this level must be a pioneering one.

Az-Zu'bi then briefed the delegation on the situation in the region and the means to achieve a just and lasting peace, stressing that the Arabs do not advocate war, but support peace based on right and justice. He expressed hope that the French delegation will have better understanding of the nature of the conflict in the region.

Maurice (Pour) expressed his thanks to the People's Assembly for this visit which provided the delegation with more ideas and impressions. He said that he will convey these ideas and impressions to French President Francois Mitterrand. He also stressed the French stand, which calls for the Israeli forces' withdrawal from all Arab territories that were occupied in 1967 and the restoration of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to establish their independent state. He also affirmed his country's stand that is opposed to the annexation of the Golan Heights. He said: We still consider the Golan Syrian territory. France has opposed the Israeli invasion of Lebanon from the very beginning.

He added that France believes the Syrian role in the region is a major and distinguished one and that this must be taken into consideration by everyone. He also stressed that the Israeli-Lebanese agreement resulted in nothing and that the Israeli partial withdrawal will not solve the problem, but will further complicate it.

Al-Asad Remarks

JN181848 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1736 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad at 1230 today received the French parliamentary delegation headed by Maurice (Pour), chairman of the French National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee. Dr Muhsin Bilal, head of the Foreign Affairs Committee at the People's Assembly, and Henri Servant, the French ambassador in Damascus, attended the meeting.

The delegation's members expressed their gratitude for the hospitality accorded to them in Syria. They also expressed their satisfaction with their talks in Damascus and their hope that these talks would further increase understanding and cooperation between France and Syria. The talks dealt with the situation in the region and in Lebanon in light of the Lebanese- Israeli agreement.

The president stressed that Syria is with Lebanon and that we only want this fraternal country to be tranquil and stable because the Lebanese people are fraternal people and part of our Arab people and because a Lebanon of this sort will also be in the interest of Syria. The president added that the way to attain this objective is removal of the Israeli occupation and achievement of a Lebanese national accord. The president referred to the presence of foreign interference in Lebanon's affairs, adding that such interference does not serve Lebanon's interests, but the interests of those who interfere.

He said that Israel not only embarked on a military invasion, but also a complete political invasion that is intended to leave its mark on Lebanon and the region. The president then explained the dangers of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement that is intended to be imposed on Lebanon. In this regard he said: This agreement is unparalleled in this age because it deprives Lebanon

of all its sovereignty and turns it into a mere Israeli protectorate, in addition to its impact on Syria's security.

The president said that there is no way to implement this agreement and that our stand toward it is final and unchangeable.

The head of the delegation thanked the president in his name and that of his delegation members for receiving them and explaing the Syrian stand. Mrs (Gisele Sharzad) from the Socialist Party spoke and said that viewpoints were identical. She added that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement contains a strategic defect which is not in the interest of Syria. She said that President Hafiz al-Asad is carrying the banner of pan-Arabism and is adopting the policy of defending national pride and pan-Arabism.

Delegation Departs

JN181935 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] The French National Assembly delegation headed by (Pour) left Damascus at 1530 this afternoon following a 3-day visit to the country. The delegation was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Dr Bilal, head of the Foreign Affairs Committee at the People's Assembly; Ghazi Jaridah, head of the Complaints and Petitions Committee; and the French ambassador in Damascus.

Maurice (Pour) made a statement to the Syrian television correspondent at the airport in which he expressed his and his delegation's pleasure at having visited Syria and met with President Hafiz al-Asad. He described the visit as constructive and positive. He said: We leave Syria with a clearer idea of its position on Middle East issues. We formed this idea during our meeting with President al-Asad and during our discussions with Syrian People's Assembly and government officials which centered on the tense situation in this part of the world.

Maurice (Pour) indicated that during the discussions similar views were reached. He said: There are common views between the two sides and it was clear to us that such meetings would benefit cooperation between the two countries.

Ash-Shar' Meets Khamene'i, Makes Statement

JN181755 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] In a statement to a SANA correspondent after meeting with Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, Faruq ash-Shar', Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs, expressed his satisfaction with Iran's firm stance, which was expressed by President Khamene'i, on supporting Syria's confrontation of the imperialist and Zionist scheme in the region. Ash-Shar' added that the Iranian president asserted Iran's support for Syria, which alone is strongly and firmly confronting the Israeli-U.S. aggression in the region.

Ash-Shar' said: The Iranian president praised Syria's backing and protection of the PLO, adding that without this backing and protection, the PLO could not have flourished and continued to exist. The president also asserted that those who utter slander about Syria and its leadership cannot be sincere to the Palestinian cause.

The minister of state for foreign affairs said that President Khamene'i asked him to convey the Iranian leadership's greetings and appreciation to President Hafiz al-Asad for the firm and courageous stances adopted by Syria under his leadership toward the U.S.-Israeli threats against both Syria and Lebanon. The Iranian president expressed his conviction that the presence of the Syrian forces in Lebanon is necessary in view of the grave dangers to which it is exposed as a result of the hostile designs of the Israeli occupiers and their agents.

Ash-Shar' held a meeting this morning with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati. They discussed the current situation in the region.

Shultz' Mideast Mission Called a 'Failure'

JN152108 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Palestine broadcast: Unattributed talk]

[Text] Our brothers on the path of revolution and liberation: U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' mission has ended in failure. This is what all political observers say. This matter called for an urgent meeting of the U.S. National Security Council to hear Shultz' report on his Middle East mission.

The Lebanese-Israeli agreement which was concluded under Shultz' auspices has been frozen. The Israelis have exploited this situation to try to perpetuate their occupation of southern Lebanon under the cover of redeployment of forces, with U.S. blessing of this step. But, will the U.S. onslaught stop at this point? Observers unanimously believe that Washington's next step will be heating up the situation and trying to find new changes based on planning an extensive Israeli aggression on the Syrian and Palestinian forces in Al-Biqa'.

This is what U.S. sources meant when they said that Lebanon will pay the price of the impasse and that the United States and Israel are studying what can be done. In the meantime, a Zionist official in Paris has affirmed that the United States has pledged in a written message to support the Zionists in any step they may take in Lebanon, including the partial withdrawal which is considered a partition of Lebanon. Furthermore, Lebanese sources said yesterday that the Zionist enemy had started to implement its plan concerning the redeployment of its forces in southern Lebanon according to the new enemy calculations, which take into account the attempt to consecrate a permanent Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon.

Confronting this situation requires strengthening the [Lebanese] nationalist and Palestinian resistance to occupation and emphasizing the essential facts of the Arab-Zionist conflict, foremost of which is what has been taken by force can only be retrieved by force.

Palestinians Said Banned From Entering Damascus

PM191047 Cairo Al-Akhbar in Arabic 15 Jul 83 p 1

['Ali Shalabi report: "Palestinians and People Who Have Visited Iraq Banned From Entering Damascus"]

[Text] The Syrian authorities have given strict instructions to world airlines not to allow Palestinians and Iraqis to travel to Damascus even if they have Syrian entry visas. The Syrian instructions also stipulate banning entry of Syria for all those passengers who have previously visited Iraq.

The world airline companies have begun complying with these instructions at Cairo International Airport since yesterday. All the companies have decided to ban travel to Damascus for any person with a passport carrying the stamp of the Iraqi immigration authorities and to refuse to carry any Palestinians traveling to Damascus in accordance with the Syrian authorities' instructions. This is believed to be the result of the disagreement between the PLO and Iraq on the one hand and Syria on the other.

As a result of this ban, a large number of Palestinians who came to Cairo to visit their relatives during the summer vacation and who reside in Syria have been unable to return although they still have their families there.

Two Syrians Hanged 18 July for Stealing

JN190852 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0800 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] Today's Syrian papers report that two Syrians were hanged at dawn yesterday in a square situated in the heart of Damascus. The two Syrians admitted stealing great quantities of products belonging to the state establishments. The papers also said that the court sentenced 19 other persons to terms ranging from one year to life imprisonment on charges of complicity.

Air Force Commander Discusses Fighting Readiness

Notes Soviet-Syrian Missiles

TA171810 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Interview with the Israeli Commander of the Air Force, Major General 'Amos Lapidot, by military correspondent Shmu'el Tal; date and place not given]

[Text] [Lapidot] Our activity is not related to the nationality of the persons manning the cockpits. If there is fighting, we conduct the combat over a certain area, against a certain enemy, for the sake of attaining certain goals. If the aircraft are manned by Soviet pilots, we may very well fight them, and we will do everything in our power to hit them and intercept them, just as we would fight any other pilot who would jeopardize our security and threaten us. Nonetheless, I must emphasize that in a broader sense, we are certainly not interested in clashing or confronting Soviet forces, either over Syrian soil or anywhere else.

[Tal] Maj Gen Lapidot: You said that the Soviets are operating SAM-5 bases. Does the very fact that it is the Soviets who exclusively man these sites present the danger that the Air Force would actually be forced to take action against them if someone there should decide to activate a missile at an Air Force plane?

[Lapidot] It is a bit difficult to answer this question. As long as these missiles are deployed in Syria and are not part of the fighting and are not used against us, we have no intention of hitting them or attacking them. Should these batteries become active and actively endanger our aircraft or aerial activity, we will have to consider ways to react to this. I hope we will not be forced to decide to attack SAM-5 batteries manned by the Soviets.

Syrian Missiles in Lebanon

TA172027 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Excerpt] There are no Syrian missile batteries on Lebanese territory, Air Force Commander Major General 'Amos Lapidot said today in an interview with Mabat, prior to Air Force Day.

According to Maj Gen Lapidot, the missiles that were not destroyed in last year's Air Force attack have been repositioned in Syrian territory along the border of the Lebanese Al-Biqa'.

Lebanon Said Cooperating With IDF Withdrawal

TA190523 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] There has reportedly been progress in preparations for the first stage of an Israeli withdrawal in Lebanon. The Lebanese Government, according to reports from Jerusalem, is now cooperating with Israel, and there have been a series of detailed discussions over the past few weeks. And according to reports from Washington, the multinational force is preparing to take over areas evacuated by the Israeli army.

A Middle East policy survey says that units from the American Marines will take over positions on the coastal road south of Beirut, while units from France and Belgium will be asked to send soldiers to the Ash-Shuf mountains.

IDF Casualties in Lebanese War Reported

TA190750 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 19 Jul 83 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Tali Zelinger]

[Text] Some 506 IDF soldiers have been killed since the beginning of the Lebanese war in June 1982: 50 of them were killed in car accidents and 76 died in the collapse of the military government building in Tyre. One civilian was also killed in Lebanon. The number of wounded now totals some 2,800 men.

Some 150 terrorist attacks took place in Lebanon during the 10 months since the evacuation of the terrorists from Beirut in September 1982. Some 110 of them were reported by the IDF spokesman and the rest were not reported. A geographical analysis of attacks in Lebanon shows that the greatest number of incidents between September 1982 and January 1983 occurred in the eastern sector.

If the Lebanese territory held by the IDF was divided into the areas of southern Lebanon (down to Sidon, including the Beirut area), the Ash-Shuf region, and the central and eastern sectors, it can be seen that the greatest number of attacks since January 1983 until now have occurred in the Beirut area with southern Lebanon being second. The number of terrorist attacks in the eastern sector has declined compared to the period between September 1982 and January 1983. A geographical analysis of the terrorist attacks may affect the ability to locate problematic key points to be handled by the IDF and the possibilities and requirements for the IDF's redeployment.

Begin Set To Visit U.S. 25-29 July

TA190710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin will depart for the United States next Monday, at the invitation of U.S. President Ronald Reagan. He will return to Israel on Friday, just before the Sabbath.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that the prime minister is scheduled to have 2 days of meetings in Washington, in the course of which he will meet twice with President Reagan, with Secretary of State George Shultz, and possibly also with Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger. He will also see a delegation from New York of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

The prime minister's communications and foreign press affairs adviser has told our correspondent that the specifics of the visit will be worked out today.

Egypt's Conditions for Envoy's Return Criticized

TA190603 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] Egypt's decision not to send its ambassador back to Israel is a negative step that conflicts with public and other promises by Egypt to Israel and the United States. This was the reaction of political circles in Jerusalem this morning to the announcement by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali that the Egyptian ambassador will not return to Tel Aviv. Here is a report by our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer.

[Schiffer] Jerusalem was not totally surprised by Butrus Ghali's remarks last night, who said that only when Israel withdraws from Lebanon will the Egyptian ambassador return to Tel Aviv, and that a timetable for a withdrawal is not sufficient. Political circles here told me this morning that this announcement is one in a series of Egyptian declarations and pledges that have not been fulfilled.

As will be recalled, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak publicly announced that once an agreement between Israel and Lebanon was signed, he would instruct his ambassador to return to Tel Aviv. Indeed, we had already heard reports that Ambassador Murtada was about to return, and would be replaced by another diplomat soon thereafter.

Consultations on Israeli-Egyptian relations have recently been underway at the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem, and they have been attended by Ambassador Moshe Sason, who came from Cairo. One of the assessments that has been voiced is that Egypt is trying to mend its relations with the Arab countries at the expense of its relations with Israel, and that this is the background for its refusing to upgrade the level of relations with Israel. In the past, the United States had exerted great efforts to persuade the Egyptians to return their ambassador,and it looks as though this subject will also be raised during the meetings the prime minister will hold in Washington next week.

Jerusalem, too, has made efforts to hold a dialogue with Cairo. Defense Minister Moshe Arens tried to meet his Egyptian counterpart upon assuming duties, but this yielded nothing.

To recap, the pretext for recalling the ambassador in Tel Aviv back to Cairo was the war in Lebanon. Now the Egyptians are raising yet another reason. We will only send the ambassador back if a new political atmosphere is established in the region. Jerusalem will await clarifications from Cairo, and meanwhile people there are finding some consolation in that in actual fact, the Egyptians are observing the agreement with Israel scrupulously.

Ministry Says Arms Sales Don't Violate Accords

TA172016 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The latest issue of *Time* magazine, which goes on sale tomorrow, reveals that Israel is one of Iran's major arms suppliers. The magazine claims that it has hundreds of documents showing that tank motors and spare parts for fighter planes were shipped to Iran via Canada and Britain.

Most of Israel's arms deals with Iran were transacted through Faruq ('Azizi), an Iranian arms dealer based in Athens. The Israeli shipments include Tow missiles, which were shipped in November 1982 via Amsterdam to Tehran.

Defense Ministry spokesman Nahman Shay said in response to the *Time* report that we have not violated any agreement with the United States barring arms sales to Iran.

Shamir Reportedly Met With Ivory Coast President

TA170530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Yitzhaq Shamir conferred with the Ivory Coast president in Geneva last week, according to the AFP correspondent in Tel Aviv.

Israel has also ordered its representatives in one of the African countries to return to Israel in the wake of the internal situation in that country. This has been learned by our political correspondent.

Ben-Eli'ezer Discusses West Bank Problems

TA181617 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] The coordinator of activities in the territories, Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, today toured Judaea and Samaria for the first time in his new post. He met with the heads of the Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria and heard from them mainly about the problem of Qiryat Arba'. This afternoon he toured Hebron and met with the Qiryat Arba' local council. In a talk with our correspondent Shalom Oren, Ben-Eli'ezer said that his first task would be to calm down tempers in Hebron.

[Begin recording][Ben-Eli'ezer] Well, I think that the main topic today — which, I think, must be answered — is that of the steps that must be taken in Hebron. Therefore I regarded this as being of first priority. I came here and I intend to tour here and to hear, and certainly afterward the required steps will be formulated.

[Oren] Fu'ad [Ben-Eli'ezer's original Iraqi name], you met with the representatives of the Jewish settlements.

[Ben-Eli'ezer] Right.

[Oren] And did they raise the problems that are painful to them?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] I met with the representatives of all the Jewish councils and I heard from them both a review of the problems they are coping with at present.

[Oren] Did this include the problems in Hebron itself?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] No. In my opinion, the talk was not only on the issue of Hebron, but altogether on everything connected with Jewish settlement in Judaea and Samaria.

[Oren] Will you be giving a special impetus to Jewish settlement here in Judaea and Samaria, or special attention?

[Ben-Eli'ezer] I will make every effort to calm things down so we all can live peacefully. [end recording]

Our correspondent adds that Ben-Eli'ezer refused to comment on the problems of the Arabs in Hebron.

Defense Ministry Denies Report on M-1 Tank

TA181818 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] The defense minister's office has denied the report in the European paper *Herald Tribune* saying that Israel asked the United States for a license to build the U.S. M-1 tank. The defense minister's adviser on communications affairs has said that the report is absolutely unfounded.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal points out that the cost of a tank of the M-1 type is $3 million, twice the cost of the Israeli-made Merkava tank. The Defense Ministry says that the Merkava is not inferior in its operation to the U.S. tank, and has also proven itself in fighting against Soviet-made tanks.

Poll Finds 'Sharp Decrease' in Begin Support

TA170822 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 17 Jul 83 p 1

[PORI Poll]

[Text] A sharp decrease in support for Menahem Begin and an increase in support for Yitzhaq Navon for the prime ministry was indicated by a nationwide public opinion poll carried out by the PORI Institute and commissioned by *Ha'aretz*. The poll was conducted at the beginning of July.

Asked "Who, in your opinion, is most suitable to be prime minister now?," 30.9 percent chose Menahem Begin as opposed to 45.9 percent who chose him in the previous poll *(Ha'aretz* 13 May 1983) — a decrease of 15 percent. In contrast, 23.7 percent chose Yitzhaq Navon, as opposed to 17.4 percent in the previous poll — an increase of 6.3 percent.

The support for Yitzhaq Rabin as prime minister has also risen a little: from 8.7 percent in the previous poll to 9.7 percent now. An increase was registered also in the support for Shim'on Peres: from 3.5 percent to 4.8 percent. As for other candidates, 2.5 percent chose Moshe Arens, 1.2 percent Ari'el Sharon, and 1.1 percent 'Ezer Weizman as most suitable to be prime minister. Twenty-four percent of those polled said they do not have any candidate for this position.

A decline was registered also in the support for Begin as the Likud's leader: 49.2 percent said he should head the Likud,as opposed to 59 percent who thought so in the previous poll — a decline of 9.8 percent. In contrast — although we are dealing here with low percentages — there has been an increase in the percentage of people who want to see Moshe Arens as the Likud's leader: from 2.7 percent in the previous poll to 4.6 percent now. 'Ezer Weizman now enjoys the support of 4.2 percent for the Likud's leadership; David Levi enjoys 2.2 percent; and Ari'el Sharon 1.8 percent. Of those polled, 35.9 percent refrained from naming anyone as the Likud's leader.

As for the Labor Party's leadership, no significant changes have occurred in the present poll in comparison with the previous one *(Ha'aretz 27 May 1983). Yitzhaq Rabin continues to lead with* 31.7 percent (33.6 percent in May); Yitzhaq Navon is in second place with 24.8 percent (23.4 percent in May); Shim'on Peres is in third place with 12.1 percent (12.2 percent in May). Others who were mentioned for the Labor Party's leadership, but with less than one percent support, included Yosi Sarid, Hayim Bar-Lev, Mordekhay Gur, Abba Eban, and Shlomo Hilel. Of those polled, 29.5 percent refrained from naming anyone as the party's leader.

The poll included a representative sample of 1,200 people, 18 years of age and older, who were personally interviewed throughout the country.

Onu Officially Assumes OAU Interim Post
AB181830 Dakar PANA in English 1819 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Addis Ababa, 18 July (PANA) — The former secretary general of the OAU, Mr Edem Kodjo, officially handed over today to Dr Peter Onu, the interim secretary general, at a brief ceremony held in the OAU General Secretariat in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Dr Onu was unanimously elected as interim secretary general following a deadlock in the election of a new secretary general during the 19th assembly of heads of state and government of the OAU held in the Ethiopian capital last month.

Dr Onu's appointment, which will last one year, is in compliance with Rule 14 (functions and regulations of the General Secretariat) of the OAU Charter.

Sources close to the General Secretariat say Dr Onu will exercise his new function of interim secretary general concurrently with that of assistant secretary general in charge of political affairs, his original post.

At a farewell ceremony held in honour of Mr Edem Kodjo and the outgoing assistant secretary general in charge of educational, social, and cultural affairs, Ambassador Nourredine Djoudi of Algeria, Dr Onu paid a glowing tribute to Mr Kodjo "for his enormous contribution to the organization during his five years of stewardship." Dr Onu said he had the privilege of being the longest serving assistant secretary general and of working under two secretaries general "but Mr Edem Kodjo stands out clearly as the one who has done his best to expand the secretariat." This, Dr Onu, continued, is evidenced in the various departments he established especially the economic wing of the organization.

The interim secretary general commended Mr Kodjo for the special emphasis he laid on "the economic development of our continent" and the crucial role he played in the organization of the Monrovia Symposium on "development prospects of Africa in the year 2000" which culminated in "the Lagos Plan of Action." Dr Onu described Mr Edem Kodjo as the "only secretary general who has fostered a close relationship between the OAU and international organizations within the United Nations system."

In reply to Dr Onu's speech, Mr Edem Kodjo described Dr Onu as "a tireless worker who never turns his back on responsibility and a devoted international civil servant who respected hierarchy."

The out-going secretary general called on all members of staff of the Organization of African Unity to make "sincere and substantial contributions, devoid of second thoughts" to enable Dr Onu to successfully accomplish his mission.

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B Discusses Shultz Tour, U.S. Aims

PM152008 Algiers Ash-Sha'b in Arabic 6 Jul 83 p 1

[Editorial: "The Palestinian 'Obstacle'"]

[Text] The United States has sent its Secretary of State George Shultz to the Middle East in the hope of eliminating certain obstacles which are preventing the implementation of the Lebanese-Zionist agreement, in the hope of bringing this agreement in line with the general Camp David course, and in the hope of attracting other parties to that course.

The aim of Shultz' current tour is to cook all this on a low fire and to open up new gaps in the crumbling Arab front. It is still a firm U.S. objective to expand the Camp David circle to include the entire region and to do it gradually, as necessitated by the complex Arab circumstances. The United States believes that this objective cannot be achieved unless the following three missions are accomplished:

1. Removal of the "objections" to the Lebanese-Zionist agreement, which means removing the obstacles preventing the implementation of this agreement.

2. Destruction of the PLO militarily and politically, or at least dwarfing and taming it to the point where it would be easier to contain and control it. What is now happening in Al-Biqa' is a part of this scheme.

3. Taming certain Arab sides, enticing them to respond to U.S. designs, and convincing them that the U.S. solution is the only way to recover some of their rights.

U.S. efforts are at present concentrated on opening up new gaps in the Arab front, which refuses to deal with U.S. designs, and on causing more Arab rifts and divisions to enable the United States to promote its plans and fulfill its objectives in the region.

In a move to expand the Camp David circle, attempts are being made to break the Cairo regime's political and economic isolation from the Arab world and exploit the Iraqi-Iranian conflict to harness other Arab parties to the U.S. chariot in the region.

Furthermore, certain EEC members sweet-talk the Arabs while lending political support to the Zionist occupation and withholding such support for the Palestinians. They also support the U.S. designs, which favor Zionist invasion and deny the Palestinian people their right to self-determination and to an independent state.

Certain EEC sides have openly expressed support for the Camp David agreements, which precipitate the Zionist occupation, perpetuate the homelessness of the Palestinian people, and bring the entire region under U.S. hegemony.

It was no coincidence that the French foreign minister's tour of the region took place at the same time as the U.S. secretary of state's tour. All these moves are contributions to the general U.S. attempt to open up new gaps in the Arab front to further promote the Camp David line and link other sides to it, after eliminating the PLO obstacle.

LIBYA

Further on Al-Qadhdhafi LE POINT Interview

LD181649 Tripoli JANA in English 1403 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawwal 7, July 17, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The widely-read French magazine *Le Point* has interviewed the leader of the revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi, on a number of Arab and African matters, particularly on the recent developments in Chad and the attempt to internationalise the situation there.

The leader said that what is happening in Chad is a struggle for power and that Libya is taking a neutral stand in this conflict. "We are very sorry for such grave developments concerning the weapons used by the rival group". The leader said that it is believed that the weapons already captured in Abeche are Egyptian- and Israeli-made weapons and that the Libyan weapons exist in the city are old and were left for Goukouni Oueddei after the Libyan forces withdrawal from there.

To the question of what would be Libya's attitude to the possible sending of French forces, in the future to Chad, the leader said that it is a premature question, but in any case Libya would not overlook the situation that is taking place right on the borders. "There is no need for a European country in the heart of Africa and such an act would be considered a threat to Libya".

"We hope that a peaceful settlement would prevail over Chad and that Libya would contribute with all her efforts for a peaceful settlement among the conflicting parties.

"Anyway, Habre does not have the legitimacy or power to rule Chad, which comprises 12 factions."

The leader added that Libya is in direct contact with the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) because Chad's problem is of African concern. "Zaire should be tried for its unilateral action. By sending troops to Chad Zaire has challenged the legitimacy of the OAU".

The leader commented on France's position regarding the Chadian issue, saying: "France has no right whatsoever to despatch arms or soldiers or even to talk about a country in the heart of Africa. Hence, France's intervention in Chad is unjustifiable and can only indicate that France continues to uphold the old form of colonialism, or the policy of imperialism".

Concerning the agreements by which the French Government justifies its intervention in Chad, the leader said: "These justifications insult French public opinion by completely overlooking it. Furthermore, the agreement between France and Chad is bound by aggression by a third foreign country against either of the signatories and does not warrant intervention on behalf of one faction against others as is the case in Chad now".

He pointed out the serious threats posed by kind of agreements France has established with the African states since these diverse from the internationally accepted forms.

The leader added: "If such justifications are tenable, it would mean that by virtue of its agreements with other African states France will intervene to support any rebel against other legitimate parties, since Hissein Habre is himself a minister who has mutinied against the head of state. How is it justifiable to conclude a treaty with him against the head of state? France can only act in accordance with these treaties in the event of an outside aggression against Chad".

On the question of the attendance of Habre's delegate of the OAU meeting in Addis Ababa, the leader said: "If we were to consider this a precedence then every rebel minister would receive recognition and this means that all the African heads of state occupy precarious positions and are in constant danger of having their positions taken by a rebel minister. Thus, should the defence minister of Zaire rebel, he would become the legitimate president in the country and Mobutu becomes the rebel. The minister becomes installed as president and is recognised as such".

Regarding France's cautions to Libya on the question of Chad the leader pointed out that President Mitterand had no right to caution Libya since the issue does not involve it. He said "France is a European country with a colonial past in Africa. Its past history in Chad is black and it is responsible for all the problems. As far as Libya is concerned it is an African border state which is connected by proximity of land, enjoying the same geographical position and people. We have the same origins, half the Chadian people are of Libyan origin vice-versa. Furthermore, the majority of the Chadian people are Moslems like us. Thus how can the leader of a European state from the heart of Europe intervene between two countries so closely linked unless it is attempting to divert French public attention from the problems of Corsica and others faced by the French Government?

"However, if the statements by France are intended for local consumption or to reassure the French-speaking countries, we have no objection."

In reply to the question on French policy in Africa since the assumption of power by Mitterrand, the leader said: "Mitterrand's policy is supposed to be better for, generally speaking, the policy of the socialists should have been much better, as had been our expectations when they assumed power in France. [sentence as received] However, the situation can improve in the future. France continues to adhere to its old colonialism, a policy to which neither we, nor the rest of the people, can adhere".

In this interview with *Le Point* the leader also talked about Arab issues such as Arab unity, Western Sahara, the new uprising within Fatah, the relations with the Soviet Union, and the Green Book saying that Arab unity is an inevitable necessity and that the destiny not be overlooked if one Arab country rejects Arab unity or the liberation of Arab lands, "in this case we will have to make our way through to the Arab masses and deal directly with the revolutionary committees. This is a common sense anda natural outcome and it is not directed against any Arab country in particular".

On the Western Sahara the leader said: "We support the Saharan people call for a referendum which Morocco agreed on".

On the uprising within Fatah, the leader is within Fatah and not the PLO [as received, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic at 2200 GMT on 17 July reports Al-Qadhdhafi as saying: "A revolution is occurring withing the Fatah organization and not within the PLO."] and pointed out that those leaders who appointed Yasir 'Arafat are the same ones who lost their confidence in him as a leader.

On the relations between the Jamahiriyah and the Soviet Union, the leader said: "We are friendly with the Soviet Union but we are free in our beliefs, policies and choices".

He pointed out that the USA is the one that opposes people's free choice. "This is a colonialist policy."

On the Green Book the leader said: "It is not for Libya alone, it is for the world as a whole because it calls for a new era that is free of exploitation and oppression".

JANA: Chad's Habre Snubs OAU Cease-Fire Appeal

LD180921 Tripoli JANA in English 0815 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, Shawwal 8, July 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The rebel clique led by Habre has snubbed the O.A.U. call for a ceasefire and end to foreign intervention. This was announced by so-called information minister of the rebel regime. This refusal to comply with the Organisation of African Unity's call for a ceasefire and end to foreign intervention in the internal affairs of the Chadian people shows the real nature of the intention to go to all extents to internationalise the situation in Chad and exposes the junta's disregard of OAU's effective role in dealing with African issues. Now, the truth behind the opportunist role of Habre vis-a-vis the OAU is clearer than ever. He always pretended to respect the organisation's decisions in order to gain a legitimate recognition of his presence, a legitimacy which he lacks and will never have.

Habre imagines, as he is shown by Western media and imperialist and reactionary circles, that he will have the upper hand in the struggle between his faction and the other Chadian factions. This belief is despotic and contradicts reality: Moreover, it is based on greedy ambition and a desire to serve imperialist and colonialist policies aimed at perpetrating the bloody war in Chad.

The OAU's call is inspired from the dangerous responsibility entrusted to the organisation, from the African spirit of duty and action. The enemies of the Chadian people must not be allowed to show disdain for this OAU role and realise sabotage ambitions which will not only harm Chad but all the free African countries.

JANA Cites Sudanese Front Statement on South

LD151525 Tripoli JANA in English 0910 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawwal 5, July 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Sudanese People's Front (the revolutionary committees' movement) has issued a statement about the armed revolution in southern Sudan stressing its backing for the steadfast revolutionaries who were dealing the agent regime heavy blows.

The statement said, "Our revolutionary forces in the south have responded to the call by the Sudanese People's Socialist Front to form a broad front to wage the liberation war for Sudan's independence following its transformation into a colony for the Camp David alliance.

Agent Numayri's regime has permitted America to turn all Sudan's territories into American military bases. The U.S. also controls the Army through its advisers who supervise the Army's command.

The signing of the so called economic integration charter by agent Numayri and Husni Mubarak turns Sudan into an American-Zionist-Egyptian colony following the transformation of Egypt itself into an American-Zionist colony".

The statement refused Numayri's allegations that the revolutionaries in the south were receiving backing from abroad. The people do not need such incitement to work to overthrow the agent regime.

The front called on the Sudanese workers, peasants and students to confront the American-Zionist conspiracy aimed against the Sudanese's people's unity and its territorial integrity and to multiply their efforts to overthrow the agent regime. It also called on the Sudanese Army to rebel and stage a revolution. It should also desist from taking part in the mass annihilation of the people in the south by agent Numayri's regime.

MAURITANIA

President on West Sahara, Other Maghreb Issues

PM151015 Paris Le Monde in French 13 Jul 83 p 4

[Interview with Mauritanian President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala by Paul Balta in Nouakchott — date not given]

[Excerpt] Nouakchott — In view of the fact that [Moroccan] King Hassan II has just stated that he would hold a referendum on self-determination before the end of the year, and that he refused to negotiate with the Polisario, President Haydala stated: "I am convinced that the correct implementation of the OAU resolution is the most appropriate path to a just and lasting peace in the region."

Since we asked him how the three African heads of state [Mauritanian President Haydala, Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, and Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam] — President Diouf being regarded as a friend of Morocco — conceived of the implementation of their text, he replied: "At the Nairobi summit in 1981, things had been left vague. We considered that there could be no referendum or cease-fire without meetings between the warring parties. We also considered that, if the Moroccans and Saharans agreed to a cease-fire, they could agree on holding a referendum or any other solution." He stressed this point, apparently holding the view that a referendum would have no significance unless a solution had first been outlined.

Question: What is the meaning of the paragraph in the resolution which specifies that the referendum will have to take place "without active military constraint?"

Answer: This means that when the referendum is held, the administration and military forces in the area must not be able to exert any pressure on the population. It would probably not be realistic to demand that they be totally withdrawn from the West Sahara. But it is vital that there should be a different administration on the spot — an OAU and UN administration — to ensure the smooth running of the referendum.

Maghreb Unity

Question: What is Mauritania's position on the process of Maghreb building started by the meeting between [Algerian] President Bendjedid and King Hassan II on 26 February on the one hand, and Algerian-Tunisian cooperation on the other hand?

Answer: Maghreb building has always been one of our concerns, and we have constantly worked to bring the different components together. During my recent meeting in Algiers with Presidents Bendjedid and Bourguiba we accepted that Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia form the backbone of the Maghreb, and we also agreed that the Greater Maghreb should include all the region's peoples and must be based on respect by each for the other political regimes and each people's specific identity. (This last detail clearly relates to the Saharans living in the West Sahara — *Le Monde* editor's note.)

Question: Are you going to join the fraternity and friendship treaty signed between Algeria and Tunisia?

Answer: We have asked to, and we are due to sign those documents shortly.

Question: Are there plans for a normalization of relations between Nouakchott and Rabat, and when?

Answer: It was the coup of 16 March 1980, inspired by Morocco against the 10 July regime, which brought about the break between Nouakchott and Rabat. We subsequently concluded a normalization agreement in At-Ta'if (Saudi Arabia) when King Khalid was still alive. But not all the clauses were respected by Rabat, in particular Article No 2 which stipulates that neither state will maintain on its territory oppositionists from the other country. However, I think that the impetus started at the Maghreb level and a solution to the Saharan conflict should favor normalization.

Minister Receives Libyan Official, PLO Envoy

AB181728 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Major Ahmed Ould Minnih this morning received separately the head of the Mauritania-Libya Friendship Association and the PLO representative in our country. Discussiors between the minister and the two diplomats centered around Mauritania's relations with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, on the one hand,and the PLO on the other, as well as ways and means of strengthening these bonds of cooperation.

MOROCCO

Pakistani Envoy Delivers Message to King Hassan

LD181647 Rabat MAP in English 1220 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Rabat, July 18 (MAP) — A special envoy of Pakistan President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq arrived here Saturday with a message for King Hassan II of Morocco.

The envoy, Najim Saqeb Khan, Pakistan's ambassador to Saudi Arabia, said on arrival that the people and Government of Pakistan greatly appreciate the efforts of King Hassan to defend Arab and Islamic causes and liberate Palestine.

He referred to the strong relationship between Pakistan and Morocco saying viewpoints of the two countries were identical on many world issues including the Middle East.

The envoy reiterated that the people of Pakistan were following with concern the efforts being exerted by King Hassan as chairman of the Al-Quds committee of the Organization of Islamic Conference.

Najim Saqeb Khan has been touring a number of Arab countries with messages to their leaders from President Ziaul.

co
editedUNCLAS 5QM/PMU MWR

CAR Students Hold Sit-in at Rabat Embassy

LD161042 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Jul 83

[Text] Rabat, 16 Jul (MAP) — About 30 students from the Central Africa Republic who are studying in Morocco staged a sit-in this morning at their country's embassy in Rabat to protest the measures adopted by the Military Committee for National Redress, which they consider "harmful to the interests of the people of Central Africa in general, and to students in particular.

A statement issued by the national union of Central African students in Morocco after an extraordinary meeting held yesterday says that the sit-in, fixed for 1030-1230, is a protest against "the cronic delay in paying student grants, the decision to give students travel tickets every 3 years instead of every 2, and the cancellation of renumeration for expenses after theses."

The sit-in is taking place in an atmosphere of total calm.. Negotiations are taking place between the students and the first secretary of the embassy in the absense of the ambassador in Bangui. The students have confirmed that similar moves are being undertaken by Central African students in a number of capitals.

It is worth noting that Central African students in Morocco number about 60, studying in various institutes and universities.

SUDAN

Numayri Reviews Foreign, Domestic Issues

JN181543 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Jul (SUNA) — The Executive Bureau of the Central Command decided at its meeting this morning under President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to issue a press statement explaining the serious situation currently facing the Palestinian revolution and the conspiratorial scheme against the Palestinian revolution, the Fatah movement, and struggler Yasir 'Arafat, the symbol of the Palestinian revolution.

President Numayri reviewed in detail the progress achieved on the domestic and foreign level in the implementation of the comprehensive political program for the third presidential term during the period which followed the second meeting of the bureau until now.

On the domestic level, President Numayri reviewed the measures taken for implementing the comprehensive political program in the (?governmental sphere), organizing decentralized government in the capitals of the southern provinces, following up the implementation of the policy aimed at reducing central organs, changing the capitals of the provinces, and implementing the policy on social justice as outlined by President Numayri in his speech on 14 June. President Numayri also reviewed what has been achieved in the People's Armed Forces, the regular forces, and the course of integration between Egypt and Sudan.

On the foreign level, President Numayri reviewed Sudan's moves to confront the challenges and serious events in the Arab and African arenas, stressing the events in Lebanon, in the PLO, in Chad, and in the OAU. President Numayri reiterated Sudan's firm stand on Arab and African issues.

Afterward, lengthy discussions were held on Sudan's stand toward the Nonaligned Movement, its moves to explain the importance of African solidarity with Arab countries, and Sudan's decision to close some of its embassies abroad.

The Executive Bureau will resume its meetings this evening.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Meets With Visiting SFRY Delegation

EA181945 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Marian received and held talks with Zvone Dragan, vice president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, at his COPWE office this afternoon.

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and of COPWE, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Army, discussed bilateral relations, mutual friendship, and possibilities for cooperation in the field of development with Comrade Zvone Dragan and his delegation.

The following individuals were also present at the talks: Comrade Addis Tedla, member of the PMAC Standing Committee, deputy chairman of the National Revolutionary Development Campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council, and COPWE Executive Committee member; Comrade Mersie Ejigu, head of planning at the Central Planning Supreme Council with the rank of deputy minister, and candidate member of the COPWE Central Committee; Comrade Tadese Kidane Mariam, head of construction and physical planning at the Central Planning Supreme Council, holding the rank of commissioner; Comrade Aseffa Woldie, Ethiopian ambassador to Yugoslavia, and officials of the Yugoslav Embassy in Ethiopia.

The high-level delegation led by Comrade Dragan was briefed this afternoon on Ethiopia's natural resources and the activities of the Central Planning Supreme Council by Comrade Mersie Ejigu. Present at the ceremony was a high-level Ethiopian delegation led by Comrade Addis Tedla.

EPLF Attack on Carora Army Center Reported

LD181210 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1006 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 Jul (KUNA) — The Eritrean People's Liberation Front representative in the Gulf region, Osman Mohamed Omar, informed KUNA here today that the Eritrean Liberation Army has attacked one of the main bases of the Ethiopian Army — the strategic center situated in the heart of Carora town on the north coast of Eritrea, near the Sudanese border.

He noted that this town is considered very important because of its strategic position and political value. He added that the EPLF had withdrawn from Carora during the period of strategic withdrawal at the end of 1978. (This town) was among the first to be liberated in 1977.

In his statement to KUNA, he pointed out that, through its attack on Carora, the EPLF has begun a new phase in its struggle to liberate Eritrea and commented that his organization now controls the rural areas of Eritrea.

KENYA

Government Acts Against Illegal Aliens

LD181707 Nairobi Daily Nation in English 18 Jul 83 p 1

[Excerpts] Hundreds of aliens were rounded up in police swoops all over the country at the weekend. Police in Nairobi said the operation started on Friday night and was aimed at netting foreigners who had entered Kenya illegally. Those caught were said to include South Africans, Ugandans, Tanzanians, Ethiopians, Rwandese and Mozambicans.

Many of those arrested were interrogated by police and immigration officials. Those who were proved to be genuine refugees or legal residents were released while the others were held in police stations.

One of the Ugandans arrested on Friday night was Mr Adoko Nekyon, a minister for agriculture in the first Obote government. Mr Nekyon is a cousin of President Obote and lives at Banana Hill in Kiambu District.

There was no immediate indication about the fate of those still being held after the operation. Officials at the Gigiri-based United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) expressed concern over the exercise. The organisation, together with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, is involved in refugee work in the country. A UNICEF official who said he was aware of the swoop said: It is true some of the aliens could be illegal immigrants who should be repatriated, but there are also those in the process of being considered for refugee status and those in transit to countries like Canada. Such people should be considered as genuine refugees, even though they did not have refugee identity cards. The official said he hoped not all those arrested would be repatriated.

SOMALIA

DFSS Gives More Details on Mataban Attack

EA190600 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Detailed reports been released on the 16 July attack carried out by the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] wing of the Somali opposition forces against troops loyal to Barre stationed in and around Mataban village, near Belet Uen, the capital of Hiran region. The fighters inflicted heavy casualties in men and materiel on the Barre loyalists.

Reports released by the 15th Captain Gorod Division of the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces fully confirm that 252 officers and men of the Barre loyalist forces were killed, while more than 300 were wounded and 15 others taken prisoner.

The following captured materiel forms part of the losses inflicted on the Barre loyalist troops: four 85-mm field guns, three Fiat troop carriers, one Land-Rover, five heavy automatic rifles, 10

light automatic rifles, 12 anti-tank guns, 800 assorted rifles, a large quantity of ammunition, rations, tents, medicine and other military hardware. The fighters of the 15th Capt Gorod Division of the Somali opposition forces also destroyed six tanks, two [word indistinct] Fiat vehicles, one [name indistnct] type vehicle, four 120-mm field guns, four 23 Zoom antiaircraft guns, and the communication center, the fuel depot, and the armory of a base where over 9,000 men, supported by loyalist paramilitary and militia units, were stationed.

The reports on the attack by the 15th Capt Gorod Division of the DFSS wing of the Somali opposition forces on Mataban village and its outskirts note that the fighters lost eight martyrs and suffered 22 wounded.

Other losses by the DFSS wing include one APC and two other troop carriers which were burned.

CHAD

Further Reportage on Fighting Near Fada

Scale of Fighting Unknown

NC181920 Paris AFP in English 1857 GMT 18 Jul 83

[By Christian Millet]

[Text] Ndjamena, July 18 (AFP) — Fighting took place today near Fada as Chad loyalist forces made a push towards rebel-controlled Faya-Largeau, the major northern city, some 270 kms (160 miles) to the east, official military sources said. No firm reports were available as to the scale of today's fighting, but with last week's recapture of the strategically situated eastern town of Abeche, and then Biltine and Oum Chalouba, the war seems to have turned in favour of Hissein Habre's government forces battling Libyan-backed rebels led by former President Goukouni Oueddei.

After the fall of Faya-Largeau June 24, the rebels won a string of victories before Mr. Habre's troops halted their advance. Since July 10, President Habre has taken personal control of the fighting, and sources here said the Chadian leader was intent on clearing rebels out of the north to assure control of supply lines, before leading an assault on their Faya-Largeau stronghold. Mr. Habre used similar tactics, in reverse, during his own nine-month long struggle, which ended with the June 1982 ouster of then President Oueddei from the capital, Ndjamena.

Both Mr. Habre's own supporters and Western military observers here are almost certain that the offensive for the key northern city will be launched before the end of the week. A close collaborator of Mr. Habre's Armed Forces of the North, as his forces are known, claimed that despite superior armament, rebel morale was low, and for this reason the attack on Faya-Largeau should be carried out as quickly as possible. He added that after their recent losses, Mr Goukouni's forces should not be given the time to reorganize.

Another member of Mr. Habre's high command said that the rebels had made the mistake of over-stretching supply lines in the general euphoria that surrounded their wave of initial successes.

Military reports reaching here said last week's battle for Abeche had been particularly fierce with more than 100 wounded in hospitals in the town. President Habre took a leading role in the fighting with one of his bodyguards, as well as his nephew, head of the military police, killed in the combats, reports said.

Additional Coverage of Foreign Involvement

Mercenaries, French DGSE Involved

AB181715 Paris AFP in English 1652 GMT 18 Jul 83

[By Christian Millet]

[Text] Ndjamena, July 18 (AFP) — A score of mercenaries of various nationalities have arrived in Ndjamena after being recruited by the Chadian Government of Hissein Habre, involved in a civil war with forces loyal to ousted President Goukouni Oueddei.

At the same time a dozen members of the DGSE, France's equivalent of the United States Central Intelligence Agency, have begun to take over from civilians delivering French military material to Mr Habre.

Chadian Minister of Information Soumaila Mahamat and French Ambassador Claude Soubeste said the mercenaries were [word indistinct] by the Chadian Government, "which recruits whomever it wants," while the DGSE men were under French command in line with the 1976 military aid agreements between France and Chad.

French sources said that their role was even more restricted than that allowed in the agreements, which ban actual fighting by French advisers in Chad. The DGSE men were not integrated into the Chadian Armed Forces and were not authorised to leave the capital. Their mission was limited to basic instruction in the use of [words indistinct] and recoilless cannon, with which Mr Habre's troops were unfamiliar. The DGSE men, members of the service's Action Wing, come from parachute units, including the Marine Parachute Regiment which has historic links with Britain's Special Air Service.

The 20 mercenaries, who arrived in two waves on July 10 and 15, are to continue the role of the DGSE men in the field, one of Mr Habre's aides said. Hard-bitten men from several countries, including France and Belgium, they seem in several cases to be here for "a last fling." One said he had fought in Katanga 20 years ago. Mr Habre's aide said they were not in Chad to do any actual fighting, but to repair equipment which might break and which the hastily trained Chadians could not tackle.

"France has agreed, tardily, to train technicians for us, and Chadians will eventually be competent. The foreigners will then return home, if only because they cost too much, but in the meantime it would be stupid to have equipment sent from Paris immobilised by minor breakdowns," a senior Chadian officer said.

It would appear that none of the mercenaries had been at the scene of the latest fighting round the eastern town of Abeche. They had arrived too late, and only left for Abeche last Friday, while the town had been retaken by government forces the previous Tuesday.

Despite assertions by Mr Goukouni's side that "tanks crewed by Zairese" were at Abeche, the only such vehicles seen there by independent observers were amoured cars crewed by Chadians. The Zaire reinforcements, around 500 men, have no tanks and have been confined to the defence of the capital. Military observers discounted unconfirmed reprots that the mercenaries who went to Abeche were armed with Milan anti-tank missiles as well as American M-16 rifles. The observers noted that the Milan was a sophisticated weapon which these aged veterans almost certainly did not know how to [words indistinct] the grounds that basic rocket launchers were adequate, the observers said.

One mercenary left behind here has been trying for two weeks without success to join the fighting. Former French Foreign Legion Sergeant Maurice Combeau, claiming service with the Christian militia in Lebanon, has so far had his offer of service ignored by the Chadian authorities.

GUNT Alleges Foreign Participation

AB181955 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Press communique issued by the presidency of the Chadian Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) on 18 July in Bardai — recorded]

[Text] Contrary to the lies of the FAN, the GUNT is in fact in control of the B.E.T [Biltine, Ennedi, and Tibesti regions] and the greater part of the Ouaddai in the northeastern part of the country. In the east, central, and southern areas, troops of the National Liberation Army [ANL] have compelled the enemy to confine his activities to the urban centers. From the fighting in (?Gourouga) in December 1982 until the occupation of the town of Abeche by the ANL on 9 July 1983, including the brilliant victory in Faya, the FAN's military potential — both in terms of men and armaments — has been completely reduced to nothing. As several Western newsmen have testified, the military successes achieved by the valiant members of the ANL have been due to their firm fighting spirit and to the just cause of our struggle.

During the recent fighting in Abeche, ANL units were confronted by the direct deployment of foreign troops on the side of the FAN. Zairian soldiers took part in this battle, armed with sophisticated weapons, among which were French-made light armored vehicles and American-made (T-7) vehicles accompanied by American and French technicians. The Chadian people are the victims of international imperialist aggression, in which French and American imperialism play a leading role. Despite the repeated appeals of the current chairman of the OAU and of several African heads of state opposing the intervention of foreign troops in Chad, the FAN has now created the conditions which may lead to an internationalization of the Chadian internal crisis which has been going on since Frolinat launched the armed struggle in 1966. The GUNT, aware of both the consequences that a similar escalation might lead to and of the risk of giving the crisis a worldwide dimension, has thus far refrained from calling on its friends.

In view of this, the GUNT calls for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of foreign troops operating on Chadian national territory. Finally, the GUNT once more draws the attention of the OAU, its Executive Bureau, friendly countries, and international opinion to the seriousness of the internal situation in Chad. It calls on the pan-African organization to do everything in its power to obtain the withdrawal of foreign troops from Chad, in order not to compel the GUNT to call on its friends.

Additional GUNT Allegations

AB181200 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The Bureau of the 19th OAU summit held a meeting in Addis Ababa on 15 and 16 July 1983 under the chairmanship of the Ethiopian head of state and current chairman of the OAU and adopted a resolution on the Chadian conflict which calls for national reconciliation, a cease-fire, and an end to all African and non-African intervention, whether direct or indirect. It further asked the current OAU chairman to take every initiative, including the convening of the OAU Permanent Committee on Chad, in order to establish lasting peace in the country.

We can now make some observations. There was a note of embarrassment in the reaction by the puppet clique in Ndjamena and by some of their French supporters to the appeal for national reconciliation. The power usurpers have already expressed their rejection of the appeal and believe that [break in transmission]. This clearly means that the fascist group continues to cling desperately to the policy of faits accompli and entertains the illusion that all other political forces can be excluded from the national political scene.

Everyone knows that since the signing of the Lagos accords in 1979, the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] has been working to bring about a reconciliation among all the political factions in Chad. However, it [the GUNT] did not fail to denounce the leader of the antinational forces [Hissein Habre] as the major obstacle to national reconciliation owing to his limitless thirst for (?power). Faithful to its policy, the GUNT sent a delegation to the 19th OAU summit with constructive, concrete proposals aimed at restoring peace in Chad. Unfortunately, the delegation was not given the opportunity to present its proposals on the settlement of the Chadian crisis.

In connection with the direct or indirect African and non-African interference, it should be recalled that [break in transmission]. France's policy of intervention has not changed in spite of the political changes in that country. This can be seen in the repeated incursions by the barracuda [French troops] into Chadian territory, the delivery of all sorts of weapons to the criminals in Ndjamena, as well as the dispatch of military advisers, instructors, heavy artillery operators, and soldiers disguised as Zairian troops. In addition to this, France has given considerable support to its puppets in Ndjamena and has orchestrated a vast media campaign in their favor, thus clearly demonstrating its multifaceted interference in affairs which are of purely Chadian concern.

In concert with the French imperialist maneuvers in our country, Zaire has sent 2,000 troops with arms and logistical support to Chad. The interference of Mobutu's forces cannot conceal imperialist, reactionary connections involving black American, West Indian, Jewish, Sudanese, and Egyptian mercenaries wearing the uniform of Zairian troops. This foreign army is fighting in place of Hissein Habre's puppet army, which has been completely (?destroyed).

On the other hand, the National Liberation Army [ANL] is the sole force operating in that part of Chad which has been liberated by GUNT units. Following the allegations made by the Ndjamena clique concerning the presence of foreign elements among the revolutionary forces, the current OAU chairman recently suggested that a fact-finding mission be sent to the field. Why did the Ndjamena blackmailer reject this proposal? The terrorist leader of the FAN (?recently) repeated his charges that there were Sudanese, CAR, Cameroonian, and Nigerian elements in the ranks of the ANL. Such an allegation by the CIA representative in Chad is just as gross and deceitful as the previous one and is meant to incite Chad's neighbors against the GUNT and its sympathizers sheltered by some brotherly countries. We will see if those states will be led into demagogy by the gravedigger of the Chadian people. We can only advise these states to send (?fact-finding) missions to the area. Several European newsmen have already traveled through the entire sector under GUNT control without finding a single foreign legionnaire.

An alleged Libyan soldier was recently presented to the media as part of the latest classic scenario to be thought out by the rebel leader in Ndjamena. This simply proves that he lacks imagination and cannot hide the large number of Zairian troops in Chad.

This foreign force of aggression and occupation contributes to the aggravation of the war in Chad. It also constitutes a real danger of conflagration in the (?region). We therefore hope that the current chairman of the OAU will call for the unconditional, immediate withdrawal of Zairian troops and other mercenaries from Chad. Concerning the reaction of the puppet clique to the OAU resolution, it chose to lay emphasis on points which are not in that resolution, such as the border (?agreement) between Chad and the Jamahiriyah. This has an unspecified implication. As for the GUNT, it will make its position clear on the matter.

Mobutu Scheduled To Visit in 'Next Few Days'

AB190950 Paris AFP in English 0920 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, July 19 (AFP) — President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire is expected to visit Ndjamena "in the next few days" for a meeting with Chadian President Hissein Habre, the Zairian Embassy here said today.

The embassy corrected a Chadian state radio announcement that Marshal Mobutu was arriving today, causing several hundred people, including a large number of foreign diplomats and journalists, to go to the airport.

Zaire has sent troops and aircraft to assist Mr. Habre in his fight against his ousted predecessor Goukouni Oueddei, backed by Libya.

Marshal Mobutu's impending arrival was seen as the reason behind Mr. Habre's unexpected return here last night after nine days at the front.

Kinshasa's aid includes 700 paratroops, a Hercules transport aircraft, three Aermacchi reconnaissance planes and three Mirage fighter-bombers. So far only the Hercules has been used operationally.

Coverage of Hissein Habre's Activities

Returns to Ndjamena

AB190700 Paris AFP in English 0417 GMT 19 Jul 83

[By Christian Millet]

[Text] Ndjamena, July 19 (AFP) — Chadian leader Hissein Habre returned here Monday evening from the eastern battlefront where he had been since July 10, reliable local sources said.

His reported return to the capital put a question mark after earlier intimations from some of his military advisers and other aides that a major offensive was in the offing against Faya-Largeau, chief town of the northern region. The town fell on June 24 to the forces of ousted President Goukouni Oueddei after a 24-hour battle in which Mr Habre's Chadian National Armed Forces (FANT) collapsed under the precision firing of long-range artillery supplied by Libya.

Chadian military sources reported that Goukouni units were thought to have evacuated Fada, 270 km (169 miles) east of Faya-Largeau, during the weekend, "in which direction" Mr. Habre's troops were yesterday carrying out mopping up operations, the sources said.

This tactic of methodical sweeps to leave no pockets of resistance in the FANT rear was presented by Chadian general staff officers as a prelude to an attack in the near future on Faya-Largeau. Mr Habre used the same system in the opposite direction in his long march on Ndjamena from September 1981 to June last year, when he drove Mr Goukouni from the capital.

Mr. Habre has spent the past week leading the FANT on a victorious counter-offensive in the east of the country. They have retaken all towns that fell there in a rapid push by Mr. Goukouni, including the pivotal town of Abeche more than 700 km -(437 miles) from here.

Mr. Habre seems to have been involved very directly in the fighting of the past few days. Two of his bodyguards and a nephew, who headed the military police, were killed in the clashes.

Interviewed by AL-HAWADITH

PM171859 London Al-Hawadith in Arabic 15 Jul 83 pp 20-22

[Interview with President Hissein Habre by Huda al-Husayni in Ndjamena — date not given]

[Excerpts] *Al-Hawadith:* I felt that you were very optimistic about the future of Oum Chalouba during your press conference. Do you have the means to defend it or will you retreat in order to defend Abeche (which lies along the Chadian Army's supply line)?

Habre: In fact, I was pessimistic about the situation. We thought that, although Oum Chalouba is a very important position, we should not disperse our forces, and for this reason we decided to withdraw from Oum Chalouba to a place which was not too far away, a town known as Biltine.

Al-Hawadith: You withdrew from Faya [Largeau] at the beginning of this stage of the conflict, and now you have withdrawn from Oum Chalouba. What about Biltine?

Habre: We will not withdraw from Biltine; we will defend it. We believe that the period of self-defense is over and that the time for a counteroffensive has come. Attack is now the best means of defense. We will be launching an attack very soon, and that will be a far better situation than having the other party remain the attacker.

Al-Hawadith: What did you feel when Faya, which is your birthplace, fell?

Habre: I did not look upon Faya as such. Its fall was a great loss. It was our most advanced post in relation to the positions of the Libyans and their followers. For this reason I felt the seriousness of its loss. But we did realize that, due to its considerable isolation and distance from our rear bases, it would be a very difficult position to retain. To have tried to hold on to it would have required great sacrifices and the result would have been the same. It is true that it was a loss, but I knew its fate in advance and for that reason its fall did not surprise me.

Al-Hawadith: People here admit that you have done a lot for Chad since you assumed power, but, at the same time, and especially since the fall of Faya, they feel that you have neglected them. Is that true?

Habre: As you know, this is how people are. All people are alike. People are happy when things go well, but from the first moment when something does not go well they immediately and without hesitation find shortcomings here and neglect there. We should all be aware of the problems and major difficulties which the officials of Chad have been facing and trying to solve. These problems have been completely overshadowed by the importance of the recent events which were imposed upon us. Nevertheless, we can only carry out our political programs within the limitations of our capabilities; we cannot do more than that.

Al-Hawadith: Mr President, do you believe that the fall of Faya was not such a bad thing since it has roused the friendly states and prompted them to help Chad?

Habre: Yes, to a certain extent. That is exactly what we mean when we say that an unfavorable event sometimes has good effects.

Al-Hawadith: But it appears that the aid you have received so far is insufficient. Is this not so?

Habre: It is valuable and we appreciate it, but it is not enough and it has arrived late. I do not mean too late but, rather, not at the appropriate time.

Al-Hawadith: How do you explain the importance given to Goukouni following his escape after the fall of Ndjamena and following his return and occupation of Faya?

Habre: Once again I would like to say that what we hear about Goukouni's occupation of Faya was no surprise. We were aware that, during the past year, Libya was doing everything it could to resume the attack on Chad, and that it has resorted to every means for this. Frankly, I do not like to talk about Goukouni, because as far as we are concerned, he is only a "screen or cover."

Al-Hawadith: Does this mean that you do not consider him to be a traitor?

Habre: Of course, as far as we are concerned he is a big traitor. He is a puppet set up as a figurehead in order to achieve Libya's objectives. Do you believe that Goukouni works for the interests of Chad? Never. Libya is now using him and will continue to use him until the moment it has no need for him. It will then get rid of him, just as one gets rid of a squeezed lemon.

What shocks us is that it is Libya who attacks us, sows instability in Chad, occupies northern Chad and yet now talks about Goukouni.

Al-Hawadith: Mr President, why did you not try to come to an understanding or agreement with Al-Qadhdhafi and Goukouni in order to save Chad?

Habre: I must admit that we have made every attempt to reach an understanding or accord with Goukouni, Kamougue, Acyl, and Libya. Since we came to power in June 1982 we have followed the policy of direct contact with the Chadian opposition but, unfortunately, we have achieved no results. We contacted President al-Qadhdhafi and arranged many meetings between Libyan and Chadian envoys which led to an official meeting in Tripoli and another in Ndjamena, but all the efforts have led to no results for one simple but basic reason, which is that Libya has no interest in reaching an understanding with us because such an understanding would prevent the Libyan president from achieving his objectives. What are these objectives? The ultimate and basic objective is Chadian-Libyan integration. The Libyan president is convinced that we will not accept this because for us integration means annexation of Chad by Libya.

The following are the terms which Libya laid down for reaching a solution:

First, a strategic military alliance between Libya and Chad.

Do you realize what the result of such an alliance would be? It would simply mean that we would accept the arrival of the Libyan Army on our territory — something whose ultimate consequence would be the final annexation of Chad. And this is not to mention the worldwide reaction to such an alliance, whether in Africa or in Europe.

Second, the declaration of an Islamic republic in Chad and the accesion of Chad to membership in the Arab League. Let us look

at the results of such a condition. There are Muslim people in Chad, but there are also Christians and pagans here as well. Therefore, imposing a particular religion and declaring Chad to be an Arab state would mean that we were declaring the partitioning of Chad.

Third, recognition of Libya's historical borders, which, quite simply, would mean abandoning the Aouzo region and the entire north.

Al-Hawadith: Which means that your borders would begin at Ndjamena.

Habre: No, at southern Ndjamena. These conditions are totally unacceptable. I must say that it is in the Libyan president's interest to have the civil war in Chad continue.

Al-Hawadith: Observers say that Israel is preparing to establish diplomatic relations with Chad, which would then become the second nation, after Zaire, to have such relations. Is this true and will you establish relations with Israel?

Habre: Observers might say so but there are others too, who are our enemies, who often repeat this and claim that the Israeli Army stands at our side and that we have received Israeli arms and many other things. If Israel is seeking to establish relations with African states, that is its own concern, and we have nothing to do with it. I can assure you that there is not a single Chadian political official who has met with any Israeli politician, from the Defense Ministry or elsewhere. I can assure you that there are no relations between Chad and Israel and, at this moment, this question is not on our mind.

Al-Hawadith: We have a feeling that you are a prisoner of the African states. Why haven't you tried to broaden your relations with the Arab countries, even with those that stand on your enemies' side?

Habre: I would like to say that Chad is no one's prisoner — not the African countries' or anyone else's. In fact, we have friendly and cooperative relations with various countries, African and otherwise. We are aware that isolation is an extremely serious thing. Even big powers do not accept it, let alone small ones like us, which must constantly tackle serious problems which threaten their very existence. The more friends we have the better.

On the one hand we belong to Africa, and therefore it is natural that we have relations with African states. But in Africa we have both friends and enemies. With regard to the Arab world, there are many things that link us to it. A large section of our population not only has an Arabic, Islamic culture, but a great many of our people also speak Arabic fluently. We have many things in common with the Arab world; we have relations with it and we have real friends, but this does not mean that entire Arab world stands behind us. We do not neglect our relations with the Arab countries and we absolutely do not believe that our relations with the African countries adversely affect our Arab relations.

Al-Hawadith: It has been said that Libya is a front for the Soviet Union in Africa. What, in your opinion, is the Soviet strategy on the black continent?

Habre: The Soviet Union could be the biggest beneficiary from what Libya is doing. I do not mean that both parties have the same reasons and motives. In order for the Soviet Union to be able to further penetrate Africa, particularly the heart of Africa, from which it is currently absent, it must support and back anyone who spreads chaos and instability. This is the policy it pursues in any case, be it in Latin America, the Middle East, or Africa. It is in constant need of instability so that it may infiltrate and impose its domination. With regard to Chad, the Soviet Union and Libya have similar and common interests, and both are trying to achieve them.

Al-Hawadith: I have read articles about Chad and about you in particular in certain papers and magazines published in the British capital, including *Africa* and *Africa Now*. In these articles, you are describes as a dictatorial president. Do you believe that you are this sort of ruler?

Habre: Journalists write whatever they like. I am not a dictator. On the contrary, we do everything possible to ensure that our people enjoy their freedom and are able to manage their life and work. We are training cadres for work in democratic institutions because we prefer the democratic course. In any case, and as we have declared in statements to our people, the day will come when Chad will live in peace and stability, just as the day will come when the people will determine their future in free elections. Therefore, others may say what they like, but I am not a dictator. I believe that while you have been here you have been able to form your own idea about this "notorious dictator" they have been talking about.

Al-Hawadith: So that that day may come, the day of peace for Chad, are you prepared to conclude a joint defense agreement with France?

Habre: I believe that this is a right and a duty. Chad always chooses what it wants. Any person in my place would not hesitate for a single moment to search for means to save Chad. Chad is threatened with disappearance and destruction, so how can I not look for salvation, particularly if all our people want it? We must look for any and all means to preserve the integrity of our national soil, our national policy, and our independence. For this reason we must look everywhere for allies and the necessary means for our survival.

Goukouni Praises National Liberation Army

AB182028 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Message to the National Liberation Army by the head of state of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] on 18 July in Bardai — read by announcer]

Text] To the valiant fighters of the National Liberation Army [ANL]: Conscious of our just superiority over the enemy, and within the framework of your revolutionary objectives, you have successfully conquered the towns of Biltine and Abeche. The GUNT fully appreciates your courage and desire to get rid of the local agents of international imperialism. It once again renews

its determination to defend the revolutionary cause which you are defending with the weapons in your hands. The massive recruitment of a foreign expeditionary force — composed of Zairians, Americans, and others — to fight on the side of the puppet FAN and equipped with sophisticated weapons, compelled you to make an orderly tactical withdrawal, thus inflicting heavy human and materiel losses on the enemy. This is also a brilliant victory in the annals of the history of our national liberation. The GUNT continues to stand by you and supports you in the struggle to save our country and counts on your national and revolutionary sentiment to achieve the noble objectives which it has mapped out for itself.

Eternal glory to all our martyrs! The struggle continues!

[signed] President Goukouni Oueddei, head of state. Bardai.

GUINEA-BISSAU

AFP: Cape Verde Exploratory Delegation Visits

AB151555 Paris AFP in French 1302 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Bissau, 15 July (AFP) — A meeting between government delegations from Cape Verde Islands and Guinea-Bissau will take place next September to examine the economic dispute existing between the two countries, it was learned in Bissau on Friday.

To prepare this meeting, a delegation from Cape Verde Islands led by Renato Cardoso, the prime minister's adviser, has arrived in Bissau in quest of more information on the dispute.

It should be recalled that this dispute dates back to the 14 November 1980 coup d'etat in Cape Verde Islands which resulted in severing political relations between the two states. It particularly concerns the liquidation of Naguicave, the joint Guinea-Bissau-Cape Verde shipping company, and payment by Cape Verde Islands for a consignment of wheat delivered to a Cape Verde company by Guinea-Bissau.

AFP: East Timor Fretilin Official Arrives

AB151642 Paris AFP in French 1429 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] Bissau, 15 July (AFP) - Mr Mari Alkatari, minister of external relations for the East Timor independent guerilla movement (Fretilin), has arrived in Bissau to inform the Guinea-Bissau authorities of the present situation in that former Portuguese colony annexed by Indonesian troops in 1975, it was learned in Bissau today.

During his visit, Mr Alkatari is expected to examine with the Bissau authorities the various possible actions for obtaining the withdrawal of Indonesian forces from Timor following the preliminary talks held last March with Jakarta on a cease-fire throughout the territory, he told AFP. "Indonesia," he added, "is attempting to give the impression that the preliminary talks were an internal issue, and this we reject totally. We think that the political solution to the East Timor problem must be found within the framework of the United Nations and that Portugal must take up its responsibilities again". "We think that the southeast Asian countries must not be ignored and we also think that the Portuguese-speaking African countries, that is Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Sao Tome must help in the search for a political solution," Mr Alkatari concluded.

IVORY COAST

Houphouet Invited To Visit U.K. 26-30 July

AB181340 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Mr Felix Houphouet-Boigny, the president of the republic, has been invited by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for an official visit to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from 26-30 July.

NIGER

Government To Receive 100 Million FR Loan

AB181400 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] The chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state today signed an ordinance for a loan of FR 100 million, that is 5 billion CFA francs, which will be granted by the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation. This loan, which is within the framework of a global program of financial revival decided on by the government, is aimed at improving the financial system, the budgetary procedures, the follow-up of the state's financial operations, and the reorganization of the financial situation of some public and semi-public enterprises.

NIGERIA

Government Oil Production Incentives To Continue

AB061720 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 6 Jul 83

[Text] The Federal Government has pledged to continue to give the necessary incentives to investors in the oil industry to maximize production capacities. It is also determined to promote the nation's participation in the development and exploitation of its petroleum resources. This was stated in Lagos today by the acting minister of science and technology, Mr Ademola Thomas, while declaring open the Seventh International Conference of the Society of Petroleum Engineers of Nigeria.

The minister reaffirmed the faith of the Nigerian Government in the OPEC as the best forum for comon action by all producers and the only instrument for protecting them on a worldwide basis.

The conference, which will last 3 days, has as its theme — petroleum resources management in a developing country.

SENEGAL

Cooperation Agreements With Japan Reported

AB160900 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Excerpt] A new milestone in the cooperation between Senegal and Japan was laid this afternoon at the Ministry of Economy and Finance where Mr Mamadou Toure, our minister of economy and finance, and Mr Yozo Ishikawa, deputy foreign affairs minister of Japan, signed two finance agreements totaling almost 2 billion CFA francs. Although this cooperation is relatively recent, it has been implemented, and it affects the key sectors of our national economy. Here is Yoro Diallo's report:

The agreements concern Japan's endowments for completing works on the professional and technical training center under construction, and also for financing the project for fighting brushfires. The first project entails the construction of a building

for practical mechanical works and related establishments and supplying the necessary equipment for their installation. The establishment of this center will enable the training of youth in electrical and electronic fields. The second project concerns supplying pumps and vehicles as well as other equipment for the fight against brushfires. This shows that cooperation between Japan and Senegal is very active.

Despite the distance between the two countries, they have been able to fraternize, and they have especially been able to promote the great principles of Afro-Asian solidarity. To us these principles mean peace, justice, and international solidarity. These three words are the very essence of a fruitful and dynamic cooperation.

One may recall that on 2 November 1962, the first Japanese ambassador to Senegal, while presenting his credentials, said that his mission was to develop and improve the already friendly relations existing between Japan and Senegal.

ANGOLA

Czechoslovak, Cuban Officials Meet Dos Santos

MB190748 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] In Luanda yesterday morning, Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, received separately the Czechoslovak deputy foreign affairs minister, Stanislav Svoboda, and the new Cuban ambassador to our country, (Rodolfo Quente Ferro). Present at the audience granted to the Czechoslovak official by the Angolan head of state were our country's deputy foreign minister, Venancio de Moura, and the Czechoslovak ambassador to Angola. Present at the ceremony at which the new Cuban ambassador presented his credentials were the Angolan foreign minister and foreign trade minister, as well as the state secretary for cooperation, and officials from the Presidency of the Republic.

Tanzanian Defense Delegation Begins 5-Day Visit

MB190741 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] The Tanzanian defense minister, Brigadier Muhiddin Kimario, yesterday began a 5-day visit to our country at the invitation of the Angolan defense minister, Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale. The Tanzanian defense minister is heading a delegation which includes four senior Army officers from his country. During their stay in Angola, the delegation will lay a wreath at the sarcophagus of the late president, Antonio Agostinho Neto, and visit military units in Luanda and the Province of Huila.

A meeting between the Tanzanian delegation and an Angolan delegation from the Ministry of Defense will be held in Luanda today. We note that before its arrival in Luanda, the Tanzanian delegation was in Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Defense Minister Comments on Sao Tome Visit

MB160837 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] The Angolan defense minister, Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale, returned to Luanda early this afternoon from Sao Tome and Principe, where he was on a 3-day visit at the invitation of his Sao Tome counterpart. At the Fourth of February International Airport, Col Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale spoke about a number of issues connected with his visit:

[Begin recording] I must say that our visit to Sao Tome was a very fruitful visit. I can say that the delegation which I led is the first high-ranking defense delegation to visit that fraternal country. We were received with revolutionary warmth not only by defense officials of Sao Tome but also by various other sectors. We had the opportunity to visit agricultural enterprises which are developing in a positive manner. We also visited a numbver of municipalties [words indistinct]. Yesterday we visited the districts of (Paguegue) and (Principe), where we also had the opportunity to exchange views with the local authorities, administrative and party officials.

I would also like to say that during our stay, within the framework of the relations linking our two forces, we had the opportunity to examine aspects of cooperation in accordance [words indistinct] on an official visit.

Besides visiting the military units of Sao Tome and Principe, we also had the occasion to participate in a joint maneuver of the forces of Sao Tome and Angolan forces in Sao Tome. Here we had the opportunity to assess the level of the fighting ability of the forces of Sao Tome. In brief, we got an accurate idea of the process of the revolution in Sao Tome and the national reconstruction of the country.

Apart from these visits, I also had the occasion to be received by Comrade Dr Pinto da Costa, the president of the Movement for the Liberation of Sao Tome and Principe [MLSTP] and of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome, during which I was able to deliver a verbal message from Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and was briefed on the general situation prevailing [words indistinct]. We also had the occasion to participate in the celebrations marking the eighth anniversary of the proclamation of independence of Sao Tome and Principe.

In general, our visit was, therefore, very positive. We had the opportunity to observe and share the experiences of the people of Sao Tome. As for the economic situation [words indistinct] the people, party, and government of Sao Tome have been combining efforts with a view to ensuring base structures for a [words indistinct].

UNITA Rejects Government Amnesty for Refugees

AB181850 Paris AFP in French 1755 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Lisbon, 18 Jul (AFP) — UNITA (armed movement opposed to the Angolan Government), today rejected the amnesty proclaimed by the Angolan Government for Angolan refugees who have been residing in the Zambian village of Maheba-Solwezi since 1975.

In a communique sent to the AFP Lisbon Bureau, Jonas Savimbi's movement alerts the Zambian Government and international organizations against what it calls "the compulsory sending into Angola of 10,000 UNITA members who were exiled in Zambia."

The communique adds that "this measure violates international treaties on political refugees and will have serious and immediate consequences for the border between Angola and Zambia which is controlled exclusively by UNITA."

The Angolan Government has proclaimed a general amnesty for all UNITA and FNLA [Angola National Liberation Front] "rebels" residing in and outside the country.

UNITA adds that "international opinion should ask questions about the fate of members of other rebel organizations who have surrendered to the MPLA in the past few years. According to our

information, it specifies that some have been executed and others have been imprisoned."

On its part, the Angolan Government has announced that former Army commanders of the FNLA have joined the (?MPLA) and have been reintegrated without any problems.

The communique asserts that "reconciliation between UNITA and the MPLA and the constitution of a government of national union are the only solution that can bring peace in Angola, pave the way for Namibia's independence, and create the necessary conditions for stability in Central Africa."

BOTSWANA

Authorities Take Action Against ZAPU Members

MB181441 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Authorities in Botswana have confirmed that a member of ZAPU is being detained pending expulsion and another has been ordered to leave the country. Reports from Gaborone say (Jamal Tofie), described as ZAPU's representative in Botswana, was declared a prohibited immigrant and detained 2 weeks ago. The man who has been asked to leave the country was (Mindin Sidumu Moyo), who fled to Botswana from Zimbabwe last March with the fugitive ZAPU leader Mr Joshua Nkomo, now himself in forced exile in Britain.

MOZAMBIQUE

Romanian President Begins Official Visit

Arrives in Maputo

MB181148 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania has arrived in Maputo at the start of a 3-day visit to Mozambique. He was met on arrival by President Samora Machel and by members of the Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party. Official discussions between the Romanian and Mozambican delegations are due to begin late this afternoon. It is expected that President Ceausescu will visit an engineering factory and the port of Maputo during his stay. President Ceausescu previously visited Mozambique in 1979.

Romania and Mozambique have long-standing relations dating back to the years of armed struggle for national liberation. During the Romanian leader's previous visit to Mozambique, the two countries signed a friendship and cooperation agreement. Romania is assisting in a large-scale agricultural project in the northern provinces of Cabo Delgado and Niassa. The project will mainly grow cotton.

As part of cooperation in mining and similar fields, Romanian technicians have been training staff at Mozambique's oil refinery in Matola.

The Romanian president is secretary general of the Communist Party of Romania. He is accompanied by his wife, Elena Ceausescu, who is a member of the party's Political Bureau and first deputy prime minister in the Romanian Government. Their visit to Mozambique is part of a tour of African countries that has already included visits to Ethiopia and Zimbabwe.

Talks With Machel

MB181838 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Talks between Mozambique and Romania began in Maputo this afternoon in the framework of the visit that the Romanian head of state has been making to our country since this morning. The Mozambique delegation to the talks is led by President Samora Machel, and the Romanian delegation by President Nicolae Ceausescu. Matters related to bilateral cooperation will be discussed during the talks.

Speaking at the start of the talks, President Samora Machel said that the visit by the Romanian head of state and the secretary general of the Communist Party of Romania to our country is of great significance for the people and governemnt of Mozambique because it is the eloquent expression of the existing relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania and secretary general of the Communist Party of Romania, recalled that the existing relations between the two countries date back to the time of the armed struggle of national liberation and have reached a new stage with the independence of our country.

French Officials Visit Detained Air Travelers

MB181114 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The French authorities have announced that their consul in Maputo has been to visit three Frenchmen who were detained in Mozambique after their light aircraft made an unscheduled stop in this country 2 weeks ago. The Foreign Ministry in Paris said the consul had been to see the three men in Nampula, a town in the north of Mozambique, where the South African-registered plane landed last month. A French Government spokesman confirmed that the men were not jailed, but they are restricted to a house in Nampula.

The Frenchmen were among six people on the plane. The others are two South Africans and one British citizen. The plane was on its way from the Comoro Islands in the Indian Ocean to South Africa when its pilot asked for permission to land at Nampula. Permission was refused, but the pilot went ahead with the landing, alleging that the plane was running out of fuel. Airport authorities inspected the plane's fuel tanks later and discovered that the pilot's claim was not true. The case is due to come to court within the next few days.

NAMIBIA

Windhoek Blast Not Seen as Escalation

MB181634 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Today's bomb blast in Windhoek should not be seen as a stepping up of the terrorist campaign against Namibia. Those were the words of the chief of security police in the territory, (Sarel Strydom).

A bomb blast in the Namibian capital early this morning caused extensive damage to a service station, but caused no injuries. (Strydom) says, in his words, the blast is typical of attacks by SWAPO aimed at proving to its foreign backers that it is continuing its so-called freedom struggle in Namibia. He has not stated, however, that SWAPO was responsible for the blast. (Strydom) says police are investigating sabotage.

State Council Officially Established 18 July

MB181752 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] A State Council for South-West Africa was established officially in Windhoek this afternoon. A proclamation to this effect has been gazetted in terms of which the State Council is empowered to make recommendations to the administrator-general on the way the territory should be administered until independence. The council's initial period in office will be 6 months, but this may be extended for a further 6 months.

SOUTH AFRICA

1,000 Boycotting Students Allegedly Teargassed

MB190816 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] Boycotting school pupils in Soweto have allegedly been the target of police teargas. The teargas reports have not been confirmed by the police directorate of public relations.

Over 1,000 school pupils in Soweto are now believed to be boycotting classes. They are from two schools, and they are protesting against the replacement of black teachers with whites and the return of an unpopular principal. Parents have resolved to support the pupils. The Department of Education and Training says students should re-enroll tomorrow, but it is not clear yet if the students will do so.

SACC Head Offers To Mediate Talks With ANC

MB180944 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Bishop Desmond Tutu has offered himself as a mediator in talks between the ANC and the South African Government. The general secretary of the South African Council of Churches [SACC], was speaking at a weekend meeting in Durban called to discuss conscription and the government's new constitutional plans.

[Begin recording] Anybody who thinks that the ANC can be excluded from discussions about a future peaceful settlement in South Africa is being totally unrealistic, and I am not producing a gimmick when I say that if the government were willing to dismantle apartheid and were wanting to begin talking about this to the ANC, then I am willing to offer myself as a go-between for this to take place. [end recording]

Bishop Tutu said if Indians and Coloreds accepted the constitutional proposals they would find themselves conscripted to fight for the very laws they hated so much. He said these included the "Mixed Marriages" and the "Group Area Acts."

Minister Requests Increase in Maize Imports

MB141015 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1003 GMT 14 Jul 83

[Text] Pretoria, July 14, SAPA — The Maize Board has been requested by the minister of agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, to call for tenders for the purchase of a further 500,000 tons of yellow maize abroad to supplement the local shortage.

The general manager, Mr Hennie Nel, said in a statement that full tender conditions and requirements relating to the manner of submission of tenders, the closing date and other related matters, would be obtainable from the board's headquarters in Pretoria from noon today.

Mr Wentzel's request arose from recommendations made by the Import Advisory Committee.

Mr Nel also said that the first three cargoes of maize from overseas had already arrived, that unloading had almost been completed, and that two further cargoes were expected next week.

"The discharging and distribution of the imported maize are progressing smoothly and according to plan and I am optimistic that we will succeed, through the imports and the distribution programme we have worked out, in supplementing not only the maize shortage, but also in ensuring that buyers and consumers will receive all their maize requirements on a regular basis." He pointed out, however, that this was the biggest importation programme for maize in the country's history and that the board relied on the cooperation of all the parties concerned in these circumstances.

Afrikaner Group Rejects NP Man for Council

MB151026 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 15 Jul 83 p 1

[By Mauritz Moolman]

[Excerpt] The National Party was dealt a severe blow yesterday when the general secretary of the party in the Transvaal, Dr Jannie Pieterse, was rejected as a member of the Executive

Council of the Afrikaner cultural organisation, Die Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuurvereniginge (FAK).

Dr Pieterse was rejected in favour of Professor Carel Boshoff, head of the South African Bureau of Racial Affairs (SABRA) and former chairman of the Afrikaner Broederbond.

Prof Boshoff's accession to the council of the FAK follows what is seen in some Afrikaner circles as a veiled warning by the main speaker at the organisation's annual meeting, former Bantu Affairs Minister Mr M.C. Botha, to the government not to turn its back on Afrikaner culture.

Dr Pieterse, NP supporter Mr R.S. de la Bat and Mr Hendrik Sloet, of Saambou-Nasionaal and president of the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut, were all renominated to the Executive Council, but only Mr Sloet was reelected.

The third member elected was Bloemfontein theologian Professor Kobus Lombard, chairman of the FAK's Free State cultural council.

FAK To Boost Afrikaner Political Unity
MB151307 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 15 Jul 83

[Text] The Executive of the FAK, Federasie van Afrikaanse Dultuurvereenigings [Federation of Afrikaans Culture Unions] will probably turn its attention next month to bringing Afrikaaner political leaders together to discuss the relationship between party politics and the Afrikaaner culture. The general secretary of the FAK, Dr (Dolf Vandenberg), says the aim is to bridge party political differences.

Our correspondent who attended the FAK congresss in Pretoria this week reports that many of the delegates doubt if the propose in this was practicable. It was felt that the party political differences were too vast to bring the leaders together.

The elected Executive Committee of the FAK has coopted as new committee members the rector of the Rand Afrikaans University, Professor De Lange, and Professor (Peter Kerk) of the university's History Department. At the Afrikaanse Studentebond Congress [Afrikaans Students Union] held in Pretoria this week, Mr (Andre Bartlet) of the University of Pretoria was elected chairman of the student body.

The Afrikaanse Studentebond has adopted a motion at its Pretoria congress calling for white universities to be allowed to formulate their own admission policies regarding the opening of the universities to all groups at post and undergraduate levels. The motion says in view of the fact that a university is part of a community, and therefore culturally orientated, it should be able to admit people of different cultures on generally applicable criteria of merit.

Ciskei Announces New Deputy Defense Minister
MB181601 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] President Lennox Sebe of Ciskei has appointed a minister of the Methodist Church, the Reverend (V.G. Nchinge), as the country's new deputy minister of defense. The move comes in the wake of a shooting incident in the capital, Zwelitsha, last Thursday. Since then there has been a reshuffle in Ciskei's security structure. A further seven members of the police, including three colonels, have been arrested. The Reverend (Nchinge) will assist President Sebe, who had taken over the defense portfolio.

ZAMBIA

General States Full Army Support for Kaunda
MB190832 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Jul 83

[Text] In the forthcoming presidential and general elections, Brigadier General (Mlotha) says the Zambia Army will give President Kaunda a massive "yes" vote and warned the electorate against listening to misguided prophets of doom whose intentions were to destroy the nation.

ZIMBABWE

Joint Communique with Romania Issued
MB181101 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] Zimbabwe and Romania have signed three agreements and a communique covering wide-ranging international issues. At a ceremony held last night, the visiting Romanian president, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, and the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, signed a document on long-term economic and technical cooperation and understanding between the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation and Romanian Radio and television, as well as an agreement in the field of geology and mining. A joint communique issued noted that Romania and Zimbabwe have agreed to intensify efforts to increase the volume of trade between them.

The two leaders also called for a special meeting of all countries which are committed to the establishment of a new world economic order. Comrade Mugabe and President Ceausescu said such a meeting would seek protectionism in trade and guarantee remunerative prices for producers of raw materials as well as equitable prices for consumers. The two leaders said the meeting would also make binding decisions concerning a substantial transfer of technology to developing countries.

Comrade Mugabe and the Romanian president also called for a mandatory arms race and to work for nuclear disarmament.

[sentence as heard] The two leaders said the production and test of nuclear weapons should be stopped and the resources used in that destructive activity should be channelled toward solving economic and social problems.

On Southern Africa, Comrade Mugabe and President Ceausescu reaffirmed their solidarity with the struggle of the Namibian people to achieve their independence. The two leaders condemned the Pretoria regime's acts of aggression against the independent African states.

On the Middle East situation, the two leaders called for the creation of the Palestinian state as the only way to find a lasting solution to the problem of the region.

During his stay in Zimbabwe, President Ceausescu held talks with the president, Comrade Canaan Banana, and the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe.

The Romanian leader also toured the Harare city and was granted the freedom of the city. Yesterday, Comrade Ceausescu addressed a rally at Rufaro Stadium, which was attended by more than 40,000 people.

Ceausescu Departs for Maputo

MB181236 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] The Romanian president, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, has completed a 4-day official visit to Zimbabwe. Comrade Ceausescu left for Maputo, Mozambique this morning to continue his five-nation African tour. He was seen off at Harare airport by the president, Comrade Canaan Banana; the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe; cabinet ministers; high-ranking government and party officials; as well as members of the diplomatic corps.

During his visit to Zimbabwe, the Romanian leader signed a number of cooperation agreements with senior government officials.

Mugabe Addresses ZANU Party Youth League

MB170627 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] The government is to provide youth with military, political, and ideological training in preparing them to defend their country. Announcing this yesterday, the prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, outlined the country's goals to the ZANU-PF National Youth League seminar, which he opened at the national sports center. Comrade Mugabe urged the youth to encourage other young people outside the party to join it and become members of cooperatives to achieve development through production, and to start training in order to participate in nation-building.

He called upon Zimbabwean youth to always be exemplary, respect others, have a cooperative spirit, seriousness of purpose, and be loyal and dedicated. The prime minster also encouraged the youth to become members of the youth brigades and join development programs, as well as to be vigilant, keeping watch on the enemy within and without the country. Comrade Mugabe said Zimbabwean youth should forge strong relations with progressive youth organizations in other countries and try to learn from their experiences. He stressed that dissidents must not be allowed to sabotage Zimbabwe's hard-won independence.

The seminar will be officially closed today by the deputy prime minister, Comrade Simon Muzenda.

Blames Nkomo for Violence

PA170400 Paris AFP in English 0350 GMT 17 Jul 83

[Text] Harare, July 17 (AFP) — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe continued his criticism of self-exiled opposition leader Joshua Nkomo on Saturday, blaming him for creating the country's anti-government dissident violence. Speaking to the first youth seminar of his ZANU party here, Mr. Mugabe also urged his young followers to work hard to establish the foundations for a one-party state in Zimbabwe.

Harshly attacking Mr. Nkomo's ZAPU party, Mr. Mugabe said "ZAPU and ZIPRA (Mr. Nkomo's now-disbanded 1970's guerrilla force) have also hatched their own small serpent, the dissident-turned-criminal who kills, kidnaps, burns, robs, and rapes for the cause of Joshua Nkomo, who will not accept his complete rejection by the people and because he cannot accept the no vote (in the 1980 elections) for an answer — because he wants all those who have no political love for him punished."

Mr. Mugabe warned the youths to be vigilant for South African saboteurs operating in Zimbabwe. He said South Africa was working to destabilise majority rule in Zimbabwe and "has already been responsible for the destruction of huge quantities of our ammunition and several aircraft."

State, Defense Close Cases at Sabotage Trial

MB181654 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 18 Jul 83

[Text] The state and the defense counsel in the trial of six air force officers alleged to have been involved in the sabotage at Thornhill Air Base in Gweru closed their cases today.

Before the adjournment of the case until Friday, the defense team recalled to the witness box two state witnesses to clarify evidence regarding the signing of a document which would have barred the accused legal access to their lawyers.